

THE

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR



World

JUNE, 1964

July Ready-for-YOUTH Resources

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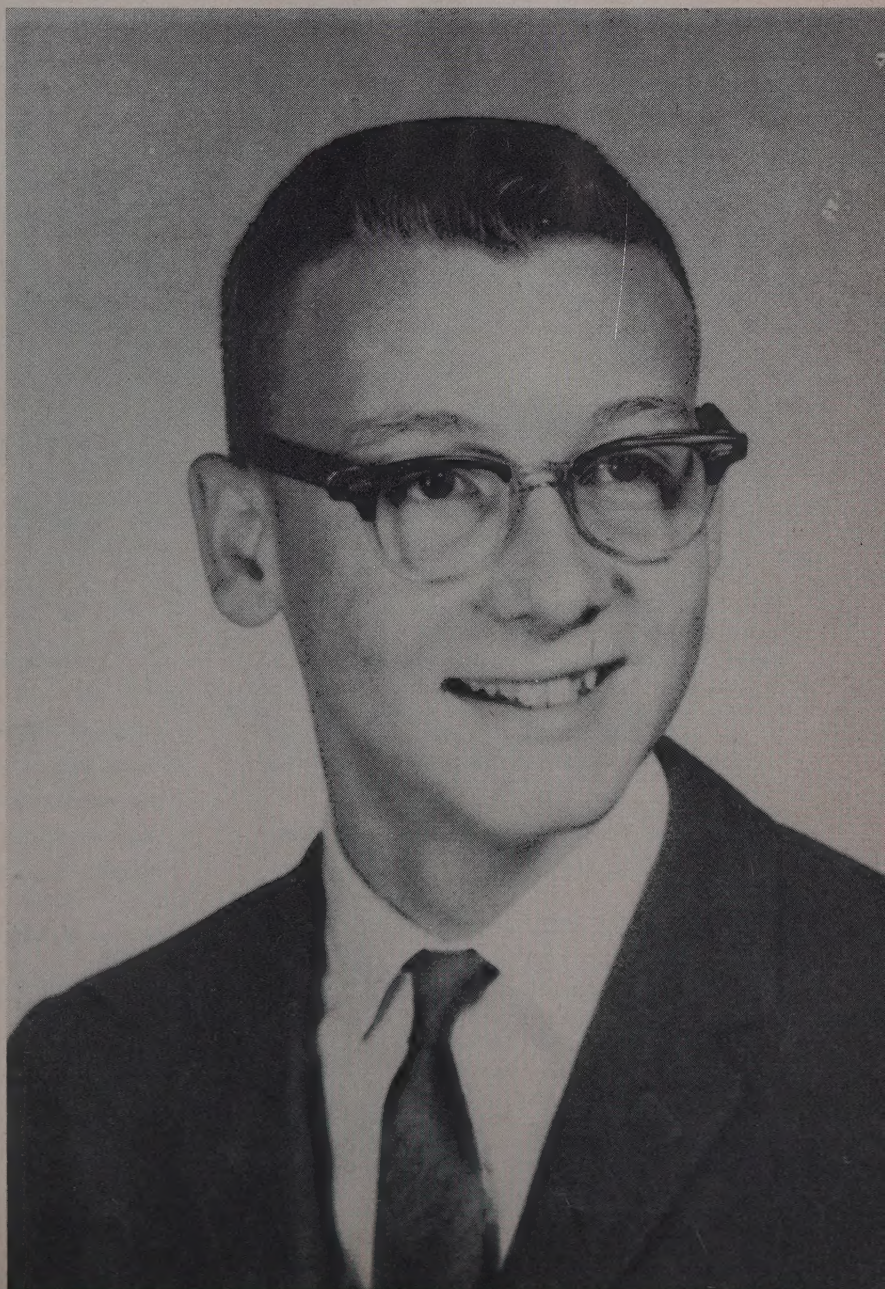
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CONRAD CLIPPINGER II
1964 ENDEAVORER
OF THE YEAR



Mr. Jay Stillson Judah, Librarian
Pacific School of Religion 6 as Mar 65
1798 Scenic Avenue
Berkeley, California 94709

MORE FOR YOU

BY THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Harold E. Westerhoff



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will be able to concentrate more of his time on clearing to the printer a host of other materials now awaiting the final touch of the Educational Secretary.

Many will remember Delno Brown as the capable predecessor of Christian Tirre in the office of Educational Secretary and Christian Citizenship Director of the International Society. During his two and one-half years at headquarters in that Staff capacity, Mr. Brown did an outstanding job in the development of materials, program, and emphases of Christian Endeavor International. He left on September 21, 1962, in order to complete requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in the field of education at Ohio State University.

By the time this article goes to print it is anticipated that all the requirements for the degree will have been met and

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On the June Calendar

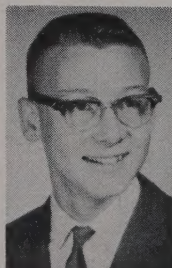
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Pray for these Christian Endeavor events!

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International Society of Christian Endeavor

Editor-in-Chief: DANIEL A. POLING

Editor: PHYLLIS I. RIKE

Associate Editor: BERT H. DAVIS

Ready-for-YOUTH Resources Editor: CHRISTIAN A. TIRRE

Publisher: HAROLD E. WESTERHOFF

Member of Associated Church Press and Evangelical Press Association.

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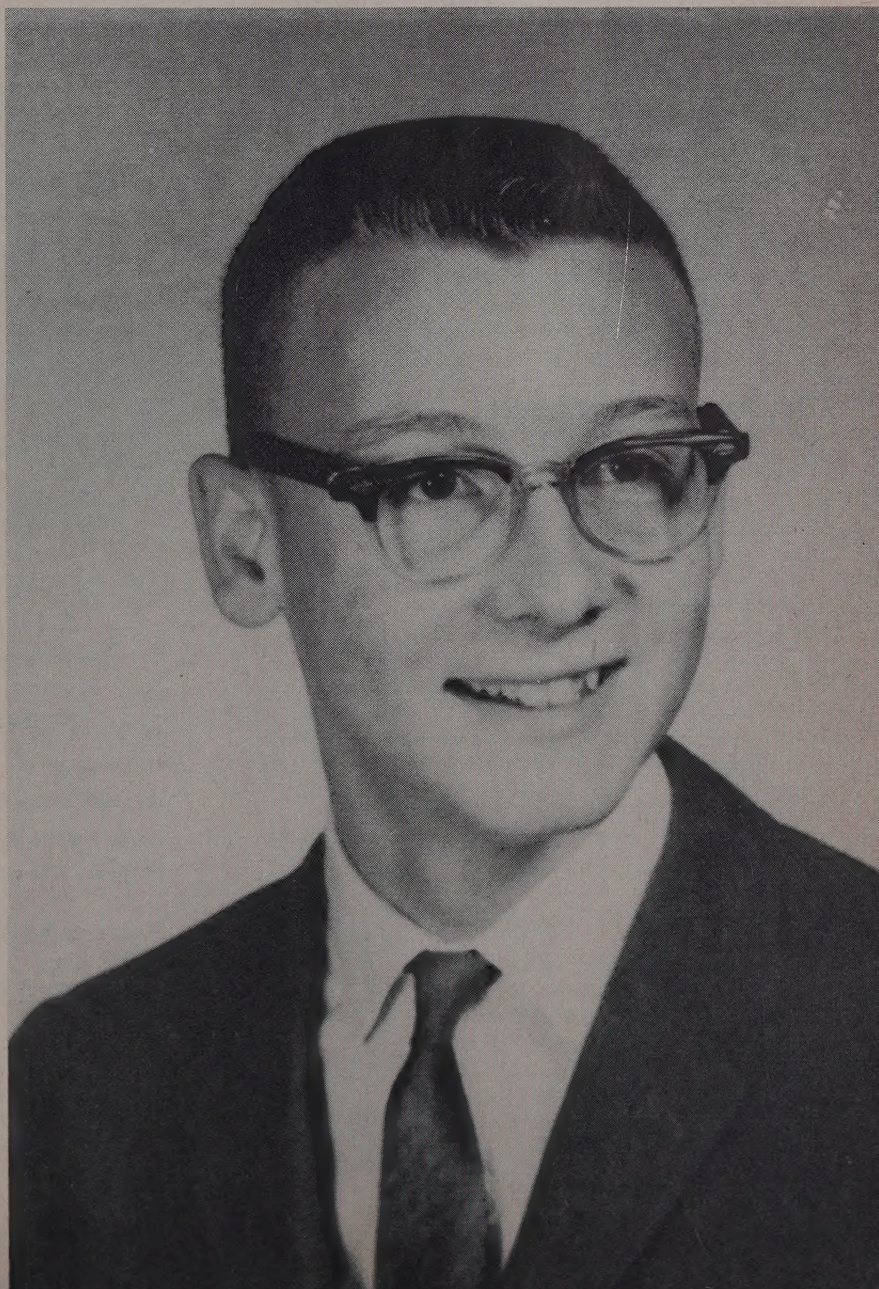
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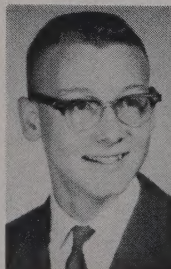
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The Runners-Up

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Assistant Treasurer
Christian Endeavor
Society

Roseville United
Brethren Church
Roseville, Ontario

Lawrence L. Hanby



Devotional Committee
Chairman
Senior High Society

Bruton Road
Christian Church
Dallas, Texas

Theresa May Siebert



President
Bykota (Senior)
Society

Southwood Church
of Christ
Columbus, Ohio

Conrad K. Clippinger II Named 1964 Endeavorer of the Year; Three Runners-Up Selected

Winner of the 1964 Endeavorer of the Year selection, sponsored by the International Society of Christian Endeavor, is Conrad K. Clippinger II of Covington, Ohio. For this achievement Conrad will receive an all-expense paid trip to the International Christian Endeavor Summer Assembly at Westerville, Ohio, July 6-11, plus room and meal costs at Otterbein College and a registration fee for the Assembly, all worth \$30.

Douglas A. Becker of Ayr, Ontario; Lawrence L. Hanby of Mesquite, Texas; and Theresa May Siebert of Columbus, Ohio, were runners-up in the competition. All three will receive free room, meals, and registration, worth \$30, for the International Summer Assembly.

Contestants were nominated by Christian Endeavor societies, unions, or adult groups which enrolled in the 1964 Society Roll Call during December, January, February, or March. Each nominee was required to have passed his 12th birthday but not have reached his 22nd birthday by February 29, 1964, and to be an active member of a Christian Endeavor society. The nomination form called for information on the nominee's local Christian Endeavor, church, denominational, interdenominational, and community activities.

At the opening session of the Assembly Conrad and the three runners-up will be presented. They will also have opportunities during the week to participate in the program.

The Endeavorer of the Year selection was inaugurated by the International Society to recognize the outstanding young person as well as to encourage young people in their Christian witness.

Meet the Outstanding Endeavorers of 1964

junior at Covington High School, Conrad Clippinger is 16 years old and honor student. He plays in the band in a saxophone quartette, as well as playing the piano. He is chaplain of the Key Club and has led singing at school assemblies.

The Endeavorer of the Year is serving his second term as president of the local Society which nominated him. He gave much leadership to the citizen-project which won for this group the place honors in the 1964 Awards Program. He is Sunday school chorister and led the men's chorus when they met recently for the church.

Conrad has participated in local and state conventions, plus an International Convention and a Summer Assembly. He is devotional chairman of the Miami Valley Christian Endeavor Union and recently served as moderator of a district

group at a district Presbyterian rally.

Douglas Becker, who was 22 years old on March 29, works with his father on their farm. He has been active in 4H work, completing 12 projects, and in the Township and County Junior Farmers. He has won several awards for plowing. Douglas sings in the church choir and plays for the hockey team. He is finance superintendent of Waterloo County Union and a member of the Bowling League. He has participated in local, provincial, and International conventions.

This is the second year Lawrence Hanby has taken runner-up honors. He is in the 10th grade at Mesquite High School where he is a member of the band, the choir, and Recreation Board. He also works approximately 20 hours a week for the Mesquite Public Library.

He is president of the MHVH Circle, a group of full-time Christian recruits recently organized in his church. He also sings in the youth choir and plays the piano for various services. As president of the Dallas District Union, he is assisting the preparations for the International Convention next year.

Also a high school junior is Theresa May Siebert, 17 years old. At South High School she is a member of the honorary Philomathean Society and is on the staff of the school paper and the yearbook. She teaches in the Primary Department of the Bible School and helps with secretarial work for her church. She represents her group in Teens for Christ, an area youth rally, and was a member of the planning committee for the Franklin County Christian Endeavor Convention recently held at her church.

4th Pacific Area Conference Set for Honolulu August 6-9

"Jesus Christ . . . the Way" will be the theme when Endeavorers gather in Honolulu August 6-9 for the 4th Pacific Area Conference of the World's Christian Endeavor Union.

Headquarters will be historic Kawaiahao Church, called the "Westminster Abbey of the Pacific." Other churches throughout the city will also be used.

The conference opens Thursday night. Bishop Clyde W. Meadows, World's Union president, will speak at one of the evening sessions and will also preach at the closing worship service at Kawaiahao Church Sunday morning.

Rev. Edward Kahale, past president of the Hawaiian Christian Endeavor Association, will give the keynote message.

Other evening speakers include George H. Nelson of Australia, a vice-president of the World's Union. Major addresses at morning general sessions will be given by Arch J. McQuilkin, president of the International Society. Rev. Takashi Oku of Tokyo, one of the directors of the Japan Union, will also participate.

Simultaneous educational conferences are scheduled during the day on Friday and Saturday. Among conference leaders are Mrs. Ernest R. Bryan of Washington, D.C., honorary field secretary of the World's Union; Frances M. Becker of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, vice-president of the International Society; Rev. John L. A. Kalili, president of the Hawaiian Christian Endeavor Association; and Mr. McQuilkin.

Hawaiian Endeavorers will be in charge of the communion service early

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Guide for ACTION Writers



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Gordon McMordie

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The writer of the Senior High-Youth People's Edition of the Guide for ACTION 1964-65 is Gordon McMordie of Feasterville, Pennsylvania. Mr. McMordie is general secretary of the Pennsylvania Christian Endeavor Union and has had much experience sponsoring societies of this age group at Hermon Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia.

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George Nelson of Australia To Speak at World's Fair

Featured speaker for the Christian Endeavor Day program July 18 at the New York World's Fair will be George Nelson of Australia. Mr. Nelson is a vice-president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union.

The program will be held at 2:15 P.M. in the auditorium of the Protestant Christian Endeavorers may register during the day at the Center.

Rev. James J. Dracup of New Jersey will be song leader for the service; Jane Bark of Philadelphia, pianist; and Rev. Roger Vander Kolk of Michigan, soloist. Arch McQuilkin, International Society president, will also participate.

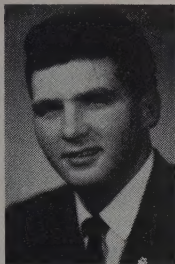
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Hawaiian Kings' Dwelling
Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

NEWS AND VIEWS



LEADERSHIP — WITH CHRIST AT THE CENTER was the theme when Michigan Endeavorers met April 11-12 for their Spring Conclave at St. Mary's. Participants included (left to right) Bruce Vlieg, Michigan Union president; Judith Bollenbacher, Conclave chairman; Elwood Dunn, general secretary; and Rev. Christian A. Tirre, educational secretary of the International Society.

ONTARIO JUNIORS 142 strong, with 42 leaders, gathered at Cooke's Presbyterian Church in Toronto May 10 for the annual junior Convention. Calvin Presbyterian Church Juniors from Waterloo won first prize for attendance, with the honor runner for work throughout the year going to Queen East Presbyterian Juniors of Toronto. Winners of the Bible quiz on the book of John were Juniors from Westminster Presbyterian Church, Hamilton, with the primary prize going to the West Sutton group. Mrs. Jack Geddes, missionary to Taiwan, spoke on "We Serve." Arrangements for the convention were made by Agnes Wallace, Ontario Junior superintendent.



• **MARY VERNON WARE** of Washington, D.C., died April 22 at the age of 106. A member of the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church, she sang with the choir of the Christian Endeavor society until five years ago. The daughter of runaway slaves, Mrs. Ware taught home economics in Washington schools for more than 50 years.

• **MASSACHUSETTS** youth gathered April 19 at First Baptist Church in Leominster for a youth rally sponsored by the Worcester County Alumni. Dr. Nelson Elliott of Gordon College was the evening speaker. Conferences, slides of last year's Northfield Conference, and a sandwich supper were features of the event. Allen C. March, alumni president, reports over 150 participated.

• **PRAYER REMINDERS** for Dallas are now available. These colorful flyers offer a prayer list to be used in preparation for the International Christian Endeavor Convention in Dallas, Texas, July 2-6, 1965. They are fine for individual use and may also be inserted in church or union bulletins. Secure a supply from the Dallas registrar for your union or write to the International Society. They're free in reasonable quantities.

• **OVER 500** attended the Easter Dawn Service sponsored by York County Union and held at Mt. Rose Cemetery in York, Pennsylvania. Richard Brumgard is county union president. Speaker was Rev. Kenneth Weaver, pastor of St. Paul's Evangelical Congregational Church.

SIERRA LEONE Endeavorers participated in a parade through Matru Jong on February 22 when the National Union was organized at a weekend conference there. Some of the youth (left) used the current biennial theme for their parade entry. A group of marching delegates (below) represented the Bumpie Endeavorers. Other societies prepared floats. Over 400 youth from 12 different areas participated.



SCENES FROM THE SEASHORE show activities at the Middle Atlantic Regional Conference April 24-26, Atlantic City, New Jersey. (TOP) Early arrivals enjoying a seafood lunch are (left to right) Harold E. Westerhoff, Evelyn R. Purdy, Arch J. McQuilkin, Phyllis I. Rike, Elwood Dunn, Martha C. Walke, and Rev. Christian A. Tirre. (MIDDLE) Making a musical call to "Big D" in 1965 are Pennsylvanians Mrs. Libby Thuss, Frances M. Becker, Gordon McMordie, Lavern Billig, and Bruce McNeel; Mr. and Mrs. Arch J. McQuilkin (left) and Harold E. Westerhoff are enjoying the fun at the conference banquet. (BOTTOM) A typical committee meeting was portrayed by these young people, as part of Elwood Dunn's presentation on "Committees in Action."

• **DATES** for the 1965 Middle Atlantic Regional Conference, announced by James R. Westerhoff, vice-president in charge of the region, are April 23-25. The conference will again be held at the Hotel Madison, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

• **A SPIRIT OF '76"** HYMN SING was held by Philadelphia County (Pennsylvania) Senior Union on May 16 at Falls of Schuylkill Presbyterian Church. Bob Ellis was song leader, with Bill Wilson at the organ and Jane Barkley at the piano.

Ready - for - YOUTH RESOURCES



A PLANNING CONFERENCE

by Elwood Dunn

Why a Planning Conference

Every organization needs to do long-range planning. The Christian Endeavor society is no exception. With prayerful deliberation the society should outline proposed activities and then plan to follow through. Successful planning can be done through a planning conference. This conference will do the following things for your society:

1. It will lead the society to further define its objectives.
2. Defining the objectives will lead the society to a dedicated effort to do the will of Christ; thus, the program will be related to the same objective.
3. A planning conference will make possible the choice of the best programs.
4. A carefully planned program will give direction to the society. The group can move readily from one activity to the next.
5. A planning conference and a program can enlist the support of the entire society.
6. The conference will utilize the committee procedure in its finest form.

Preparing for a Planning Conference

The president of the society, the counselor, and the executive committee are responsible for setting up a planning conference.

PLACE—Such a meeting can be located at the church, in a member's home, at a cottage or shelter house near a lake or resort, or at a church camp.

TIME—This, of course, depends upon the needs of the particular group. Many societies hold a meeting in August planning for the stepped-up activities of the fall—meeting all the way from an evening up to a whole weekend.

RESOURCE PERSONNEL—The various committees can use help and guidance in making plans. The resource people could include the counselors, the minister, the Sunday school teachers, or specialist.

RESOURCE MATERIALS—The executive committee should see that materials are available for each of the committees that will be planning. Here is a suggested list:

Guide for ACTION 1964-65 (two editions—Junior High and Senior High-Young People); *THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD*; *Christian Endeavor Essentials*; *What Is Christian Endeavor?*; *A Vital Program for Youth*; *How to Lead*; *Planning the Program of a Christian Endeavor Society*; *How to Win Youth*; *Interest Finder*; *Some Qualifications for Christian Leadership*; *Publicity Plans for Christian Endeavor*; *The Junior High (Intermediate) Society of Christian Endeavor*; *Topic Cards*.

There should be a quantity of paper and pencils available.

RECREATION AND REFRESHMENTS—If there is time in the planning conference arrange for recreation. If it is a weekend or overnight session there will need to be plans for sleeping and for food.

PROMOTION—The executive committee consisting of the officers and the heads of various committees should make every effort to get all members' participation in the conference. Begin the promotion early enough to reach all the group and build up enthusiasm for the meeting.

What to Do at a Planning Conference

The president should preside at the opening meeting, beginning with an appropriate devotional period. Following devotions the president should brief the society members on the purpose of the planning conference and the procedure that will be followed. He should stress the importance of everyone working together to accomplish the necessary planning. A brief description of the responsibilities of each committee should be presented. The society should adjourn to meet separately in the six committees. Each committee chairman will preside over his own com-

mittee. A secretary should be selected in each committee record the decisions and recommended plans that will later reported to the entire society when it reconvenes.

Responsibilities of Committees

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

This committee is composed of the elected officers and the chairmen of the basic committees. In the planning conference of the elected officers will be able to meet as the chairmen are involved in their own meetings. The Executive committee should consider the society's financial budget, cooperation with the nominational youth activity, promotion of larger Christian Endeavor activities, special projects such as Christian Endeavor Citizenship Awards Program, and sharing in the local church program.

THE DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE

This is a committee with large responsibilities. It looks at topic material for the regular meetings chooses the leaders, arranges for music, ushering, and materials. Promotion of such items as the Quiet Hour, Tenth Legion, Christian Vocations usually go to this committee. While not directly responsible for getting variety in the topic presentations it ought to consider the phase of the program. This committee is dealing with people who are experienced in leadership and with those who have not. All should have a chance to participate and to learn. A real service can be rendered if the committee coaches the new ones or ranges for some one to help them.

THE LOOKOUT COMMITTEE

How to make the society grow is a basic consideration of the committee. Methods of keeping the interest of all the old members and finding new ones should be developed. The evangelistic thrust is the responsibility of this group. Projects and activities to reach the unreached can be recommended by the committee.

THE MISSIONARY COMMITTEE

With this committee lies the responsibility for the missionary instruction, projects, support, and materials. Areas such as service, world peace, and the opportunities for presenting the mission field as a full-time vocation can be worked into the program. The missions program of the denomination can be presented through the missionaries, films, and materials.

THE CHURCH ACTIVITY COMMITTEE

The function of this committee is to initiate such programs and activities that will tie the youth close to the program of the church. The committee could find ways the young people can be the pastor, serve in the Sunday school, choir, or as ushers. So societies place the responsibility for publicity in the hands of the committee.

THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

It is important for this committee to keep before it the objectives of Christian recreation. It should seek to create a friendly atmosphere, arrange activity that is varied, including all new and old members. Social activity can be related to the season, special days, or periods. It is the function of the social committee to win young people to Christ just the same as the devotional lookout committees.

Concluding the Planning Conference

Following the individual committee meetings the society should be called back together to hear the reports and recommendations of the various committees. The entire society should then discuss and adopt the program that will best meet the needs of the society in the coming year. The most important phase of the planning conference will come after the conference is over—putting into effect the plans developed. It's hard to improve on the old slogan, "Plan your work; work your plan."

Topics

FOR JUNIOR HIGHS

Topic 1 in a Unit: Cooperation in Service

I Will Support My Church"

Malachi 3:8-10; I Corinthians 15:57, 58



Publicity

Make a poster of a church, preferably your own. Label portions of it *unity, attendance, loyalty, prayer, participation*, etc. Be sure to include topic, date, age group, and place. At the bottom of poster, print large letters *C H* — *C H* in smaller letters, print *What is missing?* (The answer, of course, is "UR").

For the Leader and Counselor

In these two meetings, there is perfect opportunity to emphasize the Christian Endeavor motto "For Christ and the Church," the Christian Endeavor pledge, and the Tenth Legion. Three folders available from International Society of Christian Endeavor, 21 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43216—*What Is Christian Endeavor?* (free) *What Is the Christian Endeavor Pledge?* and *What Is the Tenth Legion?* (these two at a dozen)—will prove most valuable. Tenth Legion enrollment cards and Christian Endeavor pledge cards are also available at 35c dozen.

Each group might like to construct a model of its own church. This might be built in the meeting by having the pieces on either cardboard or plywood cut beforehand and having each speaker put some part of the structure in place as he tells how "support my church." As the topic presentation is concluded, the entire church could be completely assembled, the last speaker having placed the final part. Be sure to include stewardship and the outreach of missions at home and abroad. Examine and seek enlistments in the Tenth Legion.

After studying the rest of the topic, prepare a leader's talk in your own words that will acquaint the members with the topic, and give some foundation for it. At the conclusion of a successfully led meeting, members should go forth saying to themselves "I will support my church."

Another Idea of Topic Development

In advance various young people might be assigned particular church leaders to interview. Some possible questions to ask are: *As a young person, did you ever expect to be an active church worker? Where did you get your training for the church responsibility you have? Are you glad you hold this office? What advantages are there in being*

a—(name an office)? What disadvantages? Is such a position a duty, a privilege, or both? Why do you think you were selected for this office? What has been your most unforgettable experience in this work? From your past experience, what message do you have for future church leaders? (Other questions may be added.)

Talks on the Topic

Support by Deciding

Young people make decisions every day. Some are as simple as whether or not to do homework, whether or not to obey school laws, and even whether or not to eat breakfast. Such decisions are made with little effort and very little thought. Making a decision concerning Christ and the Church is of the greatest importance. A decision for or against must be made, and such a decision may even be made by actions alone. See what the Bible says about lukewarm attitudes in Revelation 3:15,16. (If making a church as suggested in *For the Leader and Counselor* the part labeled "confession" or "decision" may be placed. The walls might carry this label.)

Support by Attending

The Christian Endeavor pledge says "... I will make it the rule of my life

... to support my own church in every way, especially by attending all her regular Sunday and mid-week services, unless prevented by some reason which I can conscientiously give to my Saviour ..." (Read Matthew 18:20 and Hebrews 10:25.) Attendance is important. No member of any organization or club is a good one if he stays away. The best way to support anything is by one's presence. Dr. Clark felt this so keenly that he took up considerable space in the Christian Endeavor pledge to include this important detail. (At this point, place the portion of the church containing the word "attendance" or "loyalty"; perhaps the door is the ideal spot.)

Support by Tithing

Tithing is setting aside one tenth of one's income for the work of the Lord. This may include missions, benevolences, church-related organizations, and any of the various worthy causes and funds of which all are aware. Certainly one's church should head the list. Read Malachi 3:10 and Proverbs 3:9. It is important that young people practice tithing. It is a command of God that one tenth of all one's earnings belongs to God. Keeping what does not belong to us is equal to stealing. It is far easier to give to the Lord ten cents from today's dollar than it will be to give ten dollars out of every hundred later. Begin while the amount is small and build up to the larger amount. Besides, those who do not practice tithing at an early age are missing the blessing the Lord promises. (Re-read Malachi 3:10 to find the blessing promised. Here the portion with the word "stewardship" or "tithing" can be added.) Do not miss the opportunity of letting young people decide now to become members of the Tenth Legion referred to in *For the Leader and Counselor*.

(Continued on next page)

Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service
Prelude
Call to Worship: Psalm 122:1
Hymn: *In the Service of the King*
Hymn: *For Christ and the Church*
Invocation
Hymn: *An Evening Prayer*
Scripture: Malachi 3:8-10; I Corinthians 15:57,58
Sentence Prayers
Hymn: *The Church's One Foundation*
Announcements
Offertory
Special Music
Topic Presentation
Closing Hymn: *Blest Be the Tie*
Mizpah Benediction

(Continued from previous page)

Support by Caring

"The smallest package in the world is the person all wrapped up in himself." The eyes of a Christian are focused on others and not on self. The acrostic joy is the life of a Christian: Jesus first, Others second, Yourself last. It is a known fact that churches who give substantial amounts to missions (others), find their local needs more readily met. Early in life each one seems to learn that the more attention he gives himself, the less others give him; the more attention he gives others, the more he receives. If this has not been your discovery, try it. (Read Deuteronomy 15:11 and Proverbs 31:9.) If this is a weakness of young people in your society, show the film *The Flame* secured through World Vision, P. O. Box O, Pasadena, California. Make sure it not only stirs up concern and thought for others, but action as well. (Here the word "others" or "out-reach" can be added—perhaps windows, suggesting that one looks out from his own church to the needs of others.)

Support by Cooperating

One of the most important factors of any organization is cooperation. Surely this is true of the church and any of its organizations. The Christian Endeavor society functioning properly should be teaching the principle of cooperation. Committee work induces cooperation. Every society meeting whether business, devotional or social, should encourage participation on the part of each one, thus uniting all in a cooperative way. School, work, and home-life all call for cooperation in order to produce a balanced happy situation. Now is the time to learn how to get along with others. This does not mean that one has to give up all his strong ideas, ideals, or ways. It does mean that he must recognize that others may feel just as strongly, but in an opposing position. The Christian attitude can still be that of cooperating, understanding, and sympathizing.

It is necessary that the young people of any church cooperate with the standards and requests of the church, whether or not they fully agree. The young people should also participate in special programs and activities of the church, doing what they can as individuals or as a society. (At this point the portion containing the word "participation," "unity," or "cooperation" may be added.)

Support by Prayer

No church can successfully fulfill its purpose unless it is a praying church. Every member should be praying regularly for its pastor, leaders, organizations,

For Discussion

1. When should one make a decision concerning Christ? Is it necessary at all?
2. What are some reasons why young people do not attend Christian Endeavor regularly? How can this be overcome?
3. Why do some young people not attend church regularly? At what age should one attend regularly?
4. How do the four principles of Christian Endeavor fit into this topic?
5. When does one begin to tithe? Is one-tenth too much to take out of one's income?
6. Name some people or causes in which Junior Highs can have an interest and concern?
7. Why is cooperation a valuable trait to adopt?
8. Of the six headings "Support by . . .," which is the most important?

and other members. Undergird the total program with prayer. Two worthwhile projects might be considered by the society. One project is the formation of a prayer cell or cells. At a designated time, at least once a week, a small group of no more than four or five, meet together to pray for particular things, people, and problems. This strengthens the individual praying people as well as the total church.

Another project is to form a prayer chain. It can be as long or short as names are volunteered. Lists are circulated among the chain members. Church people are asked to call a specific telephone number when a need for prayer is noted. Each one calls one, until the whole chain is praying for this particular need. "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of." (The last, perhaps the most attractive, and the portion that definitely points out that his building is a church—the steeple, the silent finger pointing each one to God, carrying the word "prayer"—may be added.)

Consecration

In advance have ready a central candle representing Christ the Light of the world. Have other smaller candles, one for each one present. As members stand around the table together, read or recite the Christian Endeavor pledge. Then as the Secretary calls the roll, each one responds by lighting a candle, and stating a definite way in which he will support the church more faithfully. At the conclusion, all candles should be lighted.

Bow in a moment of silent prayer each one dedicates himself anew Christ and to His Church. Together recite the Mizpah Benediction. Blow out candles and leave in quiet meditation. (It will be necessary to instruct members as the consecration service progresses.)

Follow-up Activities

If this meeting did not include the opportunity for signing either the Christian Endeavor pledge or the Tenth Legion enrollment card, be sure that not too much time passes before these cards are made available. Perhaps a total meeting could be devoted to either or both pledges. The pastoral counselor might present them, explaining them first. Aim for a few sincere signatories, not a complete society enrollment.

Plan an attendance campaign. This can be done by conducting a contest of some sort, or by having a fisherman's meeting. Secure from the Sunday school or church secretary names of young people in the church or community who do not attend Christian Endeavor. Call on them, bring them in. Another possibility would be to give awards (perhaps Christian Endeavor jewelry) to the one or ones with perfect attendance over a designated period of time.

Examine Yourself

Review summer activities. Have all been encouraged to attend local, county, and state or provincial conferences and conventions? Schedule a planning retreat for the next month to make plans for a good active fall program. Evaluate there the past year.

Are you making good use of summer weather? Have you had a campfire meeting, sunrise program, a Galilean worship hour, a hike to a hilltop, or other favorites? Have you planned an attractive summer social activity to encourage newcomers?

When did you last write to or hear from a missionary? What are you doing for others?

What could your society do for the Junior society? for your church? for the aged? for the community?

Daily Bible Readings

M. June 29	Let Us Go into His House	Psalms
T. June 30	The Church's One Foundation	Matthew 16:15
W. July 1	Support One Another	Acts 20:28
T. July 2	A Church Sends Relief	Acts 11:22
F. July 3	Church Unity	Ephesians 2:14
S. July 4	Unity in Work	I Corinthians 12:8
Sun. July 5—Topic:	"I Will Support My Church"	Malachi 3:8-10 I Corinthians 15:57

Comments by Pearl F. Reed, director of Christian Endeavor and church secretary of First Church of Evans, Derby, New York

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORK

Topic 2 in a Unit: Cooperation in Service

"Faithful unto Death"

I Timothy 3:15; Joshua 1:9; Revelation 2:10

Publicity

Make a poster of a church similar to last week's. Label portions of it *unity, endurance, loyalty*, etc., but leave two or three of the sections out. This will indicate that unfaithfulness can weaken or wreck a church as well as a life. Be sure to include topic, date, time, age group, and place. At the bottom of the poster print *Revelation 2:10* to arouse curiosity.

For the Leader and Counselor

Read the ideas suggested last week. If they were not followed, perhaps they can be used this week. Plan to weave these topics into close relationship with the Christian Endeavor pledge. Use the pledge at these meetings. Urge Junior Highs to memorize the pledge during this unit. Suggest a two-week attendance campaign for membership of the society.

If a church model was built in the previous meeting, one or more sections might be removed, indicating that unfaithfulness can weaken or wreck a church as well as a life.

Give opportunity for signing the Christian Endeavor pledge and/or the Tenth Commandment pledge.

Point out the necessity for Junior Highs beginning now to be faithful to Christ and the Church. They are the future Church. Their loyalty now will determine their value later. Now is the time to begin practicing stewardship as God's Word teaches us.

As suggested in last week's topic, after studying the rest of this material, prepare your own words a talk to give at the beginning of the meeting. This should acquaint the members with what is to follow. At the conclusion, if the meeting is carefully and successfully conducted, members will go forth from it determined to be "faithful unto death."

Talks on the Topic

"My Faith Looks up to Thee"

Young people and adults sometimes reach a point where they ask themselves "What's the use?" "Why am I giving so much of my time to the Church?" "Are my efforts appreciated?" "Am I seeing any results?" When the going gets rough, and the worker gets weary, look up to Him. Read Matthew 11:28 and Psalm 73:23-27. What is Jesus saying to us in Luke 9:62? When one begins to stumble

and falter, it is time to get up a new hold, and start again.

In the second verse of this hymn, we are reminded that Christ "died for me." Can we do less than live for Him?

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

God does not change. He will always be as He has ever been. We can count on the seasons and on the sun, moon, and stars. They change not. His blessings are upon us even beyond His promises. Great is His example to us. Read I Corinthians 4:1-3 and Psalm 89:1-8. What do these passages say about faithfulness? How we sometimes admire and stand in awe at His faithfulness to us when we are so very unworthy! At other times mankind seems to find it so easy to turn his back on God when the going gets rough. God is blamed for errors impossible for Him to make. Yet His back is never turned to us. "All I have needed Thy hand hath provided." Does not the magnitude of His faithfulness to us point out our weakness and what a disappointment we must be to Him?

"There's a New Day Dawning"

*Go forth to serve as Jesus went,
To minister to men;*

Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service

Prelude

Call to Worship: Psalm 89:1

Hymn: *There's a New Day Dawning*Hymn: *How Firm a Foundation*

Invocation

Hymn: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Scripture: I Timothy 3:15; Joshua 1:9; Revelation 2:10

Guided Prayer: (Leader suggests things for which to pray, then waits in silence)

Hymn: *My Faith Looks up to Thee*

Announcements

Offertory

Special Music

Topic Presentation

Hymn: *I Surrender All*

Mizpah Benediction



*A messenger from heaven sent,
To do His work again.*

*Seek Christ, His will, His sacrifice,
His blessed way to live;
Let self die out, Christ shall suffice,
To Him your spirit give."*

Read II Timothy 2:1-5 and Hebrews 11:37-40. These passages should give us courage to go forward for Christ and the Church. With them in mind we can determine to be faithful unto death. It pays to endure hardships. Work now, "for the night is coming when man works no more."

"How Firm a Foundation"

*"Fear not; I am with thee, Oh, be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, I will still give thee aid.*

*I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My gracious, omnipotent hand.*

*The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to His foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."*

Read God's promise in Joshua 1:9. What a foundation we have in God! He never forsakes us, though we frequently forsake Him. Determine to attempt to match His faithfulness—and be faithful unto death.

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

As we hide ourselves in Him, as we cling to Him, we find our very lives based on a rock which can endure all things. "Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer; behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Revelation 2:10).

If we are careful to be faithful to Christ Himself first of all, it will then be natural to be faithful to His Church.

"I Surrender All"

Other people observe Junior Highs as they really are, and that's pretty real. Seldom do you find anything artificial in this age. It is very important to be faithful in Christian witnessing at home, school, play, community, church, and wherever life takes you.

Could you say of your life what is said in II Timothy 4:6-11?

Give yourself totally to Christ—surrender all. Keep nothing from Him. Read together in dedication the words of that hymn *I Surrender All*.

Faithful to the End

A number of years ago two women asked a local pastor to call on the home of a seventeen year old girl who was dying of tuberculosis. She had no church relationship, but lived in the community where this pastor labored. He went to the home then, and several other times. It was too late for her to be hospitalized. It was only a matter of time. Then one day the pastor received the inevitable phone call. The young girl had died. He was wanted there at once. As he and the mother looked down upon the form of this young girl, the mother laid her head on the pastor's shoulder and cried, "Why couldn't I have gone with her?" she asked. "She had to go alone." The pastor kindly told her that Jesus came and got her as He promised. He said, "I will come again, and receive you unto myself" (John 14:3). The mother in this illustration was faithful to the end, but so was Christ.

Other Ideas of Topic Development

Secure from your pastor, music director, or others, books that contain the stories of the hymns referred to tonight. Tell a little about the writer, under what circumstances he wrote, and why.

Questions for Discussion

1. Why should we be faithful? To what should we be faithful?
2. How can we increase our faith?
3. In what ways did Christ set an example for us regarding faithfulness? Name incidents.
4. How can young people today be faithful to the Church? Is it necessary?
5. At what age should one join the Church?
6. At what age does one quit going to Sunday school?
7. Why do we face temptations and hardships? Does this mean God is not with us?
8. What is death? Does it end all things? Is there anything at all to follow death?
9. Is death to be feared? Give reasons for your answer.
10. How does one give himself completely to Christ?

Beforehand, look up in a concordance passages on the word *work*. What does the Bible have to say about it? Jesus had some things to say about work. Some of these things can be found in: Matthew 23:5; John 5:20; John 6:29; John 7:21; John 9:3; John 10:25,32; John 14:12; John 17:4. Discuss what these passages mean to us today. Seek out other verses as well.

You might also make a study of the word *faithful*. Some of the places where Jesus mentioned it are: Matthew 24:45; Luke 12:42; Matthew 25:21,23; Luke 16:10. Find others and discuss their relationship to the topic and today.

Follow-up Activities

If the activities suggested in last week's topic were not attempted, read them over, and attempt them this week.

Encourage memorization of the Christian Endeavor pledge. If preparation for presenting this topic is started properly in advance, young people can be encouraged to do this. Offer awards to those who can say it completely. (Christian Endeavor jewelry makes a good award.) The motto, "For Christ and the Church," should be emphasized. Review and explain the four principles: (1) Confession of Christ (2) Service for Christ (3) Loyalty to Christ's Church (4) Fellowship with Christ's People.

Counselor's Closing Comments

Too often Junior Highs feel that they are misfits. They're not sure where they stand. They are too old for some things, too young for others. Christian Junior Highs will not worry about what the others are doing, but just do what they feel Christ would have

them do. Nowhere do we find that when a person reaches a certain age, he stops going to Sunday school, or he stops studying God's Word. There is always more to learn. There is always another hill to climb.

Junior Highs must never stop doing anything without taking on something harder or greater. The older they become, the more they should be doing and learning. Even at home, they should be taking on more responsibilities, not lessening them. All too quickly, they will be having to leave their own home, and need the practice of some important responsibilities in today's home.

School work becomes more difficult. This is in preparation for even more difficult days ahead. Attitudes of studying are important. Friends acquired here will perhaps determine the kind of friends they will have during the rest of life. These are days of seriousness, not days of flippancy.

Community activities should become more of an interest. It will be required from now on as good citizens to take a more active part. This is in preparation for being loyal P.T.A. members, leaders in scouting, and other similar organizations.

The Church must have its place in the balanced life. Junior Highs must begin today to give it an important part. Supporting the church today prepares them for tomorrow. The young people in the church today are the leaders in the church tomorrow. They must be faithful to Christ and to His Church. It is not a weak person who has concerns about Christ, but a strong person.

They need to decide today what kind of an adult they want to be, what kind of parent, what kind of a church member. In what do they want to be a leader? What are they doing about it? Preparation is now. Junior Highs need to be encouraged to be faithful in little things that they might be faithful in greater things.

Daily Bible Readings

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---|
| M. July 6 | The Steps of a Good Man | Psalm 37:23 |
| T. July 7 | Great Is Thy Faithfulness | Psalm 89: |
| W. July 8 | Faithful Stewards | I Corinthians 4: |
| T. July 9 | Endure Hardness | II Timothy 2: |
| F. July 10 | Example of the Faithful | Hebrews 11: |
| S. July 11 | Faithful to the End | II Timothy 4:6 |
| Sun. July 12—Topic: | "Faithful unto Death" | I Timothy 3:15; Joshua 1:9; Revelation 2: |

Comments by Pearl F. Reed, director of Christian Endeavor and church secretary of First Church of Evans, Derby, New York

Hymns listed in program outlines in THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD have been selected from the new CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SONGS. This book, with an attractive orange and black krome-kote cover, contains 138 songs and hymns and 20 responsive Scripture readings for youth meetings. Available from International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43216. Price: 60c each, \$6 per dozen, \$48 per hundred.

Topic 1 in a Unit: Christian Courtship

Dating Days

Genesis 2:18-23

Publicity

Make a poster showing a boy standing in the front door of a house, and a girl holding her hair. (Cut-outs from magazines may be used instead of drawing.)

Print the title of the topic, *Dating Days*; the time and place of your meeting and welcome for all Junior Highs to attend.

For additional publicity, in your young people's department in Sunday school, have a boy and a girl give a skit announcement.

Boy: Dating? You mean goin' out with a girl? Me! Spend twenty cents for coke and a dime! And listen to a giggling girl! Uh-uh. Not me.

Girl: You mean I should give up my very best girl friend and get bored hearing about her vaulting and high-jumping. Who cares anything about that stuff?

Two years later; the same boy and girl. The boy is carrying a track bag (or some obvious sports equipment); she is wearing his letter "sweater." They walk on and off the stage as he enthusiastically talks about sports. Before taking their places, they are in unison: "Want to hear more about dating? Come to Christian Endeavor this evening. You are sure to learn all kinds of things."

For the Counselor

Nothing is of more interest to the normal teenager than the subject of dating. This is part of God's plan for man, His highest creation. The world makes its bid for this natural instinct. Magazines and television stir in their views of sex. God's Word should be the Christian teen's standard of conduct. The church should meet his need for guidance in this most important area of his physical life.

This program can have life significance for each Junior High who is present. Geared to an "everybody's doing it" creed, prayer and preparation will cause the young people to take a second look at what "everybody does."

Leader's Introduction

What do you do on dates? Dating is not exactly the same for everyone, but many Junior Highs are beginning to be curious and interested in how to become better friends with the opposite sex. There are many things to consider during the dating days. Our first and main consideration is that our whole life belongs to God. The first two verses of the Christian Endeavor Chapter, Romans 12, are a good guide for the correct behavior of Christian young people.

To discuss the topic of *Dating Days* we have the following panel members. (Introduce the young people who will present the ideas suggested in this topic. Invite a doctor or your minister to be on the panel to talk about the subject, "Dating you will be happy to remember five years from now.") The panel members will discuss some ideas concerning a Christian's attitude toward dating.

First Panelist

What is a date anyway? Dating is a rather recent custom. A date is an agreement between a boy and girl for a specific occasion. A date offers the opportunity to get acquainted and to have fun. There are other reasons for dating, too. Dates help you to learn social skills and manners. Dating helps you to gain self-confidence and learn more about yourself. Dating introduces you to different types of personalities. A Christian date can be an enriching time of fun and fellowship, if Christ is allowed to direct your plans.

A young person is often led into a trap because he falls for a half-truth. True friendship between boys and girls must be based on the truth. If one has to be



deceitful and pretend that he is something he is not, a good friendship cannot develop. It is important to know the one you are dating. Do not trust the advances of strangers.

Second Panelist

Each Junior High needs guide lines or standards to help measure his Christian witness. Standards for dating are very important. A young Christian is determined to live a life that is an example to the world. The standards cannot be watered down just for desired false popularity. A tempting phrase is often used to urge youth to lower their standards. Your friends may say, "Everyone's doing it!" "Why won't you do this?" or "let's go to that dive." To be a part of the gang is not an easy desire to fight. Your friends will lose their respect for anyone who does not stand up to the standards that he has set. The most popular youth are those with high standards. (Give some of your own ideas about the proper standards for Junior Highs.)

Third Panelist

Actions are not the only things to consider during the dating days. Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, taught that thoughts must be controlled, too. With the Psalmist, a youth must pray, "Search me, O God, and know my thoughts today" (Psalm 139: 23). Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart" (Matthew 5:8). To fill the mind with shady and filthy stories does not help to keep the heart clean. Keeping one's thoughts clean and pure is not easy. Daily dependence upon God for strength is necessary. It is easy to just listen to a dirty story. As you listen, it becomes easy to think differently until you are not aware of the filthy thoughts that are becoming a part of your own thinking.

(Continued on next page)

Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service

Call to Worship: Ecclesiastes 12:1

Hymns: *Love Divine; Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Scripture Reading: Genesis 2:18-23

Prayer in Unison: The Lord's Prayer

Announcements and Offering

Chorus: *Christ Is the Answer*

Special Music: An instrumental solo, *Now I Belong to Jesus*

Prayer Chorus: *Whisper a Prayer in the Morning* (prayer requests followed by sentence prayers)

Leader's Introduction

Panel Discussion

Buzz Session and Reports

Leader's Summary

Hymn: *I Would Be True*

Benediction

(Continued from previous page)

The literature that is read greatly changes ideas; therefore, be sure to read the Bible daily. Many books help to keep the mind pure and give inspiration to life. The Christian Endeavor Quiet Hour Pledge encourages fifteen minute daily individual devotions. (Secure a copy of the pamphlet, *What Is the Quiet Hour?* from the International Society of Christian Endeavor.)

Fourth Panelist

Let's talk about some plans for dating. Group dates are important for the first dating experiences. Meet with your friends at Christian Endeavor socials. Go to the school athletic games. Skating and bowling can be lots of fun. Invite your friends over to your house for a pizza party. When you have a party plan extra games and have plenty of refreshments. When you are asked to go on a date, you do not have to accept the invitation. Always consider your first mission in life. You are to witness for Jesus Christ and committed to follow His will.

To the Leader

The fifth panelist will be the guest speaker—doctor or minister. After he completes his talk, allow an opportunity for members to present questions. Select some of their questions to be discussed in small buzz groups.

In advance make plans for areas where the buzz groups can meet. Have paper and pencils for distribution. The groups should not be larger than five or six, and they should have a combination of the quiet members as well as the more outspoken. Each buzz group should appoint one person to write down the various points which are discussed. One member of the group should be selected to report the main ideas to the whole society after five minutes together in the buzz groups.

Sample questions for the group discussions: "What can one learn from advertising on the subject of dating?" (Consider facts about the teeth, breath, hair, and good grooming habits.) "What do the ads leave out?" (Consider manners, morals, and behavior.) After the groups complete their discussions, the reporters should tell the whole group the main points which were covered.

The following three life problem situations may be discussed before presenting the closing remarks.

Life Problems

1. Mary Lou looks older than her 12½ years. The boys in school keep asking her for dates. She's not interested in

boys but doesn't want to admit she's just twelve. What should she do or say?

2. Bill has often been heard to say "I like a girl to look like a Christian—not all painted up like a barberpole." But it's just talk. He dates the girls who use the most make-up. How should the girls react to his inconsistent remarks?

3. Grace is a Christian. Her parents are not. They keep urging her to go to places of amusement she has no desire to go. They want her to date boys who are not interested in Christ or even in going to church. How can she please her folks, yet maintain her Christian testimony?

Leader's Summary

In Bible times, dating was not known as we know it. Even today, in many countries, marriage is not preceded by dating and courtship. Parents and other close relatives arrange the marriage as they might make a business transaction.

Recently a panel of young people, two from the eastern countries and two from the west, debated this question. Joe and Jane from the west were completely against a culture that would deprive them of the choice of a husband or wife.

The boy and girl from the middle east were equally against the western "dating." Their strong point was that marriage in their countries is much more likely to be a lifetime partnership. They claimed that their parents had only their best interests at heart. They had all the benefit of experience. They selected a suitable mate on the basis of religion, economic status, family background, rather than on "pure sentiment," as the eastern young people called the courtship of westerners.

The westerners contended that "they were not stuck with someone they had never seen before." If they made an error in judgment, at least it was their own mistake they had to live with, not their relatives.

(This theme may be the basis of a debate, "Resolved that the oriental custom of parents choosing a mate for their sons and daughters results in more lasting marriages than western custom produces.")

Dating leads to mating. That's a pretty obvious statement, isn't it? Sensible dating can be thought of as the first step. It gives each of you an opportunity to broaden your social horizons. Just keep in mind, "Don't go steady before you're ready." Too early dating of one person cuts you off from making a circle of friends of both sexes.

Next week we will discuss marriage. Be thinking during the weekend and come prepared to share your ideas.

Committee Activities

LOOKOUT COMMITTEE: This week's topic has built-in appeal for every Junior High.

It's up to you to let them know you expect them at the meeting.

DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE: Obtain from your church library (or borrow from your pastor's private library) a copy of *You Only Once* by Dr. Clyde M. Narramore.

CHURCH ACTIVITY COMMITTEE: If your church or pastor does not have a copy of *You Only Once*, take the necessary steps to buy one for use in this meeting, and to present it to your church library.

Self Analysis Quiz

Mark a "yes" or "no" after each of the following statements:

1. I resent having to tell my folks
a) where I am going.
b) with whom I am going.
2. I feel it's right that I should be home at 11 o'clock at night.
3. I do not agree with the "no dating school nights" rule.
4. I never object when my folks ask, "What did you and _____ do on your date?"
5. I appreciate my parents' interest in everything I do.
6. I always ask myself, "Would what I'm doing please the Lord?"
7. I think dating is for the birds.
8. The only reason I want dates is to prove that I'm popular with the boys or girls.
9. I believe girls should take the responsibility for correct conduct on a date.
10. If a girl refuses to let a boy be familiar with her, she will never have another date.
11. Boys like girls who say "no" and mean it.
12. Dating should be a matter of prayer.
13. We can't go by the standards our parents had for their dates.
14. I would be more cooperative about dating if my parents would just trust me to do the right thing.
15. I would be a whole lot happier if my folks would make firmer rules for me to keep.

If time permits, discuss these questions, the answers, without revealing whose answers they are.

Daily Bible Readings

M. July 13	Rebekah and Isaac	Genesis 24:61
T. July 14	Jacob's Love for Rachel	Genesis 29:15
W. July 15	Joseph Keeps His Purity	Genesis 39:6
T. July 16	Boaz Marries Ruth	Ruth 4:13
F. July 17	God, the Third Partner	Hosea 2:16
S. July 18	Love's Chapter I	Corinthians
Sun. July 19—Topic: Dating Days		Genesis 2:18

Comments by Mrs. Christian A. Tirre, a guidance counselor at Starling Junior High School, Columbus, Ohio

Topic 2 in a Unit: Christian Courtship

Marriage Must Be Christian Too

Ephesians 5:1-10



Publicity

Cut out bell-shaped invitations. Print on these the title of your topic, time, and place your meeting, and distribute in the Junior High department of the Sunday school.

Display a poster decorated with pictures of a bride, and with the same information on the invitations.

or the Counselor

Marriage is the goal of the normal teen. Some may have scars as a result of unhappy home situations. These will be cynical and could not be permitted to infect other Junior Highs. Concentrate on the positive qualities such as the place the Bible gives to marriage and the home.

Pray earnestly that this program will be blessed in the power of the Holy Spirit to influence each one in the group.

Work with each participant to make sure that the program goes off smoothly.

Give the leader assistance in choosing two happy Christian couples for the summary thoughts. A bad example of marriage would not be appropriate to summarize this topic.

Be prepared to discuss any questions which may arise. Encourage the youth to talk about their feelings and fears with an adult such as yourself, the minister, or their parents.

to the Leader

Invite a young married couple and an older married couple to give their views of what makes a Christian home, as a summary of the topic. The couples will speak after the "counselors" give their ideas. Allow time for questions from the members.

As the members enter the meeting room place the names of the following Biblical couples on their backs:

Jacob—Rachel	Sarah—Abraham
Aquila—Priscilla	Elizabeth—Zacharias
Mary—Joseph	
Ruth—Boaz	Zipporah—Moses
Isaac—Rebekah	

Each person must find the correct mate and sit with that mate during the meeting. Together they should find the Scripture reading which tells something about

the Biblical mates they represent. During the discussion time each couple could tell something that they learned about marriage from the life of the Biblical characters.

Secure books, magazine articles, and pamphlets for members to browse through after considering this topic. You might check on using a film or filmstrip on the subject of Christian marriage.

You could plan a debate (suggested in last week's topic and if not already used) on the subject of oriental mating versus western dating. The debate would point out the advantages and disadvantages of having the parents choose the marriage partner as is the custom in the Orient. The debate would also point out the disadvantages of the western custom of dating.

Emphasize the point that marriage is not an experiment that can be tossed out if it does not work. Marriage is a lifelong relationship which can not be destroyed lightly. Marriage requires diligent work by both partners.

Ask the minister to say something about the meaning of the wedding ceremony.

Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service
 Call to Worship: Psalm 29:2
 Hymn: *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind; O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*
 Scripture Reading: Ephesians 5:1-10
 Prayer
 Announcements and Offering
 Chorus: *Living for Jesus*
 Special Music: A duet, *The Love of God*,
 Responsive Reading: The Love of God, I John 4:7-21
 Leader's Introduction
 Talks on the Topic
 Quiet Hour Emphasis
 Sentence Prayers
 Hymn: *O Jesus, I Have Promised*
 Benediction

The social committee could have a wedding reception (without bride and groom); just serve a simple white cake and punch as refreshments.

Leader's Introduction

Last week dating was discussed. This week we will think of a more distant experience. Our topic is *Marriage Must Be Christian Too*. Marriage may seem to be a strange topic for Junior Highs but it demands much understanding and preparation. We will talk about the ingredients of a Christian marriage. The failures of today's marriages could be decreased if Christ were at the center of each home. People can not love one another when they are selfish. Working out the problems of a family demands that a person thinks what is best for others. In the responsive reading we found the true meaning of love expressed.

Marriage is a serious step which begins a lifetime partnership. Since it is to be a lasting relationship there is no time for experimenting. We must be sure that the steps which we take towards marriage are directed by God.

The Bible is the basis for our wedding ceremony. You remember that Jesus even attended a wedding feast.

Tonight, our speakers are acting as marriage counselors. Let us consider their ideas as they have a conference on the ingredients of a Christian marriage.

Talks on the Topic

First Counselor

The preparation of individuals for marriage will be our first topic. Every important event demands preparation. The preparation for marriage begins very early in life. As children we must learn to share with others and to take our responsibilities. A Christian will think about the basic beliefs of his faith when he prepares for marriage. The wedding

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vows bind two individuals together as one. The Bible mentions this unity in other realms by urging, "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (II Corinthians 6:14). The prophet, Amos (3:3) states, "Can two walk together unless they are agreed?" In preparing for marriage the couple must consider and agree upon a common faith. Ignoring the differences in faith can be deadly for the success of a marriage. (Check with your counselor or minister for additional information about inter-faith marriages.)

Second Counselor

Another ingredient that is added during the preparation period is guidance. There are many choices that require more experience than youth can provide. Seek out the help of your parents and church leaders in preparing for your wedding. The minister, chosen by the bride, will want to have counseling sessions with the couple. The Christian meaning of marriage will be emphasized during these sessions. Important problems concerning their church attendance, interests and goals, work responsibilities, children, and personal habits will be considered. Love is only one of the essential ingredients to make a good Christian home. The Bible says that a man shall leave his family and cleave to his wife. The new family is not completely divorced from its relatives though. If the family heartily disapproves of the marriage, trouble may develop. Two people do not have to be exactly agreed on every subject to be happy, but it is necessary to be agreed on strong, basic beliefs.

It is necessary for Christians to understand that weddings witness the couple's faith in God. A quick, hurried civil ceremony is not for the Christian. The church, which is the bride of Christ, fittingly participates in the service. To be married by your minister in the sanctuary is a witness that God is your Creator. It does not have to be a huge expensive wedding, just a simple impressive wedding service in the house of God.

Third Counselor

Love has been mentioned as one ingredient to make a Christian home. What is love? Jesus speaks often of the unselfish love which is always giving without expecting anything in return. He urges each of us to love our neighbor as ourself. The Christian does not consider love as being a domineering force. In the letter to the Ephesians Paul describes

the relationship which must exist in the Christian home. (Consider Ephesians 5: 21-33.) The husband and wife are concerned about each other's welfare. Each one is concerned with giving rather than receiving. Love for another is a growing process and not just a temporary physical attraction. Love should not be considered lightly. Be hesitant about saying, "I Love you." There is plenty of time to find the right person before declaring your love.

Fourth Counselor

The fourth area for this topic discussion to consider is a wholesome view of sex. God has very wonderfully created man and woman, so that they desire and need each other. The commercial world has tried to destroy the beauty of sex by using it to entice customers to purchase their products. The Bible approves of sexual relations only in the bounds of holy matrimony. The Christian young couple will not betray their love and faith by allowing themselves to drift into sexual gratification before marriage. The unity of two people is sanctioned by the wedding vows before God and man. To spoil this pledge by sin and guilt created from sexual experiences before marriage is very unreasonable. A Christian has the responsibility to keep his life pure.

Fifth Counselor

God's plan and purpose for our lives is the greatest consideration when considering marriage plans. There are three great decisions in life which help to determine whether or not we seek God's will for our lives. The first decision concerns our faith in God. We must accept or reject Jesus as our Saviour and Lord. When Jesus is accepted as the Lord of life, His will becomes our desire. We will seek His guidance in the other two vital choices, which are our vocational choice and our marriage partner. As you seek God's will for your vocation, you must be sure that your choice of a marriage partner shares your goals and aspirations. Many young people fail to accept the calling of God because the marriage partner would not permit peace and harmony in the area of the chosen vocation. If God is calling a young man to be a doctor, he is also calling a young woman who will sacrifice her own time with her husband as he serves mankind. Be sure that there is an agreement on God's will and purpose for both partners' lives.

Leader's Closing Comments

Marriage is years off in the future for you, but you should have a clear idea of some of the ways you can plan for a happy, Christian marriage.

As far as the *personal* aspect of marriage, now is the time to determine you will take God's way. In this age of easy morals, God's standard has not changed. The sure way to complete obedience is found in Romans 12:1,2, "I beseech you, therefore . . . that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice . . . and be not conformed to the world, but be ye transformed, by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God."

Illustration

A minister tells that he gives the same Bible verse to every couple as soon as he has pronounced them husband and wife. Facing the newly-weds he repeats, "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32).

To the congregation he says, "I know you are wondering why I choose this verse. It may seem particularly inappropriate at this moment, but this young couple has a whole life-time ahead of them in which to practice it."

This minister tells that without exception, the young couple look surprised. "What do we need with a verse like this?" their looks clearly say. But in many instances, they have come to say "thank-you" to the minister who gave them such practical advice for a happy marriage.

Brainstorming Session

Use the chalkboard and appoint a secretary. Introduce the theme of the brainstorming session, "*What I want and what I don't want in my marriage.*"

List under these two headings every suggestion; no criticism is permitted. One idea may give rise to others (this is known as hitch-hiking).

You may wish to have the members copy the lists onto paper to take home for future reference or to share with their parents and friends, so be prepared with paper and pencils.

Daily Bible Readings

M. July 20	A Dedicated Marriage	Acts 18:1-4
T. July 21	God's Temple	I Corinthians 6:17-20
W. July 22	Marriage Is Sacred	Malachi 2:14-16
T. July 23	Responsibility in Marriage	Matthew 22:1-14
F. July 24	Mutual Respect	I Corinthians 13:7-8
S. July 25	Faithful Always	I Corinthians 7:39,40
Sun. July 26	Topic: Marriage Must Be Christian Too	
		Ephesians 5:1-10

Comments by Mrs. Christian A. Tirre, a guidance counselor at Starling Junior High School in Columbus, Ohio

Topics

FOR SENIOR HIGHS AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Topic 1 in a Unit: Church Loyalty

Effervescent Loyalty

II Corinthians 11:18-31

Leader Helps

Take your task seriously and become fully acquainted with the material in the topic. Because of the nature of the topic you should analyze your own attitude of loyalty. How will you communicate this topic? Will you convey a feeling of "I really don't want to do this but I guess it's my job"? Or will your attitude be "This is a real opportunity and I'll use every minute of it to the best of my ability"? If the latter is your attitude you will find that you will convey to the other youth a real sense of enthusiasm and purpose or as the title says *effervescent* loyalty.

This topic can lend itself to role-playing, why not try it. The topic material which deals with the college student can be acted out in the first person. Also use the first person in giving examples of loyalty. Simply by changing the attitude you have you can convey the discouraged, "no loyalty" person, to an effervescent loyalty.

Counselor Helps

In your everyday life you convey a type of loyalty. Ask yourself what this is? You may know of persons who portray this effervescent loyalty, call on them to share it with the young people. Read the topic and then lend a helping, guiding hand to the leader. Encourage the leader to use some of the different types of topic presentations and show him how. A number of questions are raised within the material of the topic. Read them before you meet with the leader and do a little thinking for the answers. Make sure it is relevant for the young people. Strive to have them give the solutions.

Topic Helps

Introduction

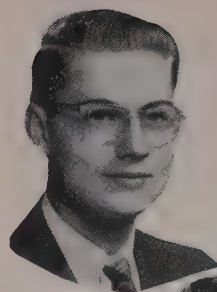
Before we get into a real discussion of the topic it is well that we look at the meaning of the word loyalty. In a leading dictionary loyalty is defined as "a quality, state or instance of being loyal. Fidelity or tenacious adherence to a government, principle, practice or custom, it is essentially personal and moral, based on individual choice . . . and may find expression in varied forms. Loyalty also carries with it a real sense of faithfulness, devotion and tenaciousness." Now with this definition of the primary word

in the topic we are ready to dig in and see what it has to say to us.

Different Loyalties

There are two kinds of loyalty: (1) involuntary, (2) voluntary. First let us deal with involuntary loyalty. We have no control over involuntary loyalty. In a sense we are victims of circumstance. Just think about this for a moment. We had no choice as to who our father and mother would be. Our family is something thrust upon us, even so there is a degree of loyalty whether strong or weak until death breaks this unit.

Then too, there is an involuntary loyalty to our country. We were born here in this country, or at an early age when the family left the "homeland" to sail to new shores and new opportunities were transplanted in this country. Yet in this all our country is something over which we have no choice until we gain our independence from the family and the obligations of the country. For we must remember our loyalty is of an involuntary nature, yet very real. Every young man realizes this fact come his



eighteenth birthday when he is called on to register for the draft or more properly known in the United States as the Selective Service System. If one tries to ignore this loyalty the Federal Bureau of Investigation will remind him of his loyal obligation. We see very clearly that there is a real sense of involuntary loyalty.

To give a more clear picture of involuntary loyalty let us cite one more example of this concept. It is another area where we have no choice, and that is the area of race. In our day we hear a great deal about this subject. It is always well to put ourselves, as best as possible, in the position of the person of another race; and then ask ourselves how would we feel concerning acceptance, opportunities, and other matters of life. This topic isn't on civil rights but when we think of loyalty we must be aware of this involuntary loyalty. This might give us a better understanding and insight into the problem as it exists today.

How do we evaluate these loyalties mentioned above? Do we consider them as mere accidents that happen or as a fate that has befallen us? Or do we look at them as God given opportunities to be the best of whatever we are wherever we are and in whatever circumstances we find ourselves? (At this point it would be well if audience reaction was given. Strive to make the members look at their involuntary loyalties and how they consider them in relation to their entire life.)

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Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service
Prelude
Opening Season of Prayer: Use silent and sentence prayers
Songs of Praise: *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name; Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*
Scripture: II Corinthians 11:18-31
Ministry of Music: Solos or Duets
Announcements
Prayer Hymn: *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*
Topic Presentation: Effervescent Loyalty
Offering
Offertory Prayer
Closing Hymn: *Jesus Calls Us*
Benediction
Postlude

Voluntary Loyalty

But there is another area of loyalty which must be recognized and analyzed, and that is voluntary loyalty. This loyalty is a matter of deliberate choice. In this area of loyalty we make up our minds to do something and are called upon to stick to it. Let us cite a hypothetical situation to make the issue more clear.

Presume you are a college sophomore and not enjoying your stay in college. You are having a miserable time because it isn't what you thought it was going to be. With this situation in mind note a few details. Most likely in your junior year in high school you became interested in going to college. You really worked so that you could maintain good grades, and made plans accordingly as far as finances, choice of school, and opportunities afforded at an institution of higher education. During your senior year you made application at the school which you liked and felt you could afford. Then comes the great day of enrollment, followed closely by those first hectic weeks of school. The matter of becoming adjusted to new routine, tougher requirements, and all that goes with acquiring this education you desire. As you begin your schooling you have great excitement and anticipation. You write home about it, talk about it when your friends come to see a football game. All in all you are bubbling over with enthusiasm, and really have the school spirit. When Thanksgiving and Christmas vacations come you share with friends and relatives at home how great school is, and just by your enthusiastic loyalty they know your school is the best and greatest. But somewhere along the line something happened. Grades weren't the best at the end of the first semester, and this was the professors' fault. Then too, a big spring party was held and the wrong guy asked you to go. Then, the newness of the whole adventure wore off and toward the end of the year it was a disciplined routine—something you didn't particularly enjoy. You go home the end of that first year more educated, but the college can burn as far as you are concerned. Where is all that school spirit, that institutional loyalty? What happened? It is a mystery to your friends and baffling to your parents.

In our example we see what affects loyalty, namely the individual. We elect to attend a particular school, we are filled with enthusiasm but then something goes wrong, something happens within ourselves and voluntary loyalty is no more. Do we see how we are involved in this matter of voluntary loyalty? In the area of involuntary loyalty we are forced into the situation, but here we do the selecting of the course of life. And how loyal are we to it? Do we have the ability to stick to it and work it out?

Vocations

The matter of loyalty can be seen in the matter of vocation as well. Somewhere on the road of life this vocational decision is necessary. With some it comes smoothly almost automatically, with others it is a real struggle and covers years in time. But with all there is the necessity for loyalty. What we might call sticking to it. What will our attitude be in our vocation? Will it be one that every time a difficulty arises we will take the easy way out and run to something else or blame everyone but ourselves for the "goof" or difficult time? In our vocation there must be a sense of unrelenting loyalty. Stick to it! Doing whatever we do to the best of our ability and keep plugging when things aren't what they should be. Remember the words of Paul in Philippians 3:14, "I press on toward the goal..." (RSV). This should be our aim with the addition of wholehearted loyalty, of which Paul is a good example.

We can think of countless areas where this matter of voluntary loyalty is experienced. (We have only mentioned two areas but if time permits let the group bring up more and discuss them. Be sure always to leave the impact on them that they must stick to it and be faithful to whatever it may be.) Look again at the definition we gave for loyalty.

Emotions

Loyalty also carries with it a quality of emotion. As we think of the areas in which loyalty has been mentioned and as we are aware of our loyalties we realize at once there is a quality about them. Let us use as an example that of vocation. We know that whatever our life's work there will always be the "ups" and "downs." There will always be a frame of mind which we have toward our work. We are concerned about the frame of mind. Either we will like our work and go at it wholeheartedly or else we will consider it pure drudgery and hate it. These are the two poles and we will fluctuate between them. But let's take a good look—we chose the vocation so we must have had some aptitude for it, some insight into it, and a love for the work whatever it is. So our initial attitude is that of excitement, joy, and great zeal. For those who find themselves in life's work what is our attitude now? There should still be the zeal and effervescent loyalty to the job as when it was first begun.

Spiritual Life

We have spoken in the area of the materialistic and natural, but does any of this apply to the spiritual? It certainly does. (See how many of the young people in the society have confessed Christ as Saviour? See how many of them we brought up in the church, this is involuntary loyalty, while confession is voluntary. Point out this distinction. Now what their attitude toward Christ and the Church is? How do they look at the spiritual life? Do they realize this was voluntary choice?)

Realizing we have accepted Christ as our Saviour and Lord what about our loyalty? Do we hide our testimony under a bushel when the going gets rough or do we carry out the mission we have, being light to the world and salt of the earth? The type of attitude of which we are thinking can be best illustrated by our approach to school. For high schoolers school loyalty is strong. We will defend to the last inch Central High, and another will stand up and plead with great enthusiasm that South High is the best. Just look, isn't there a real sense of zeal and of effervescent loyalty. Carry this over into the area of church life and what happens. We can each draw our own deductions as they fit our particular area and situation. Do the young people with whom we associate have a real enthusiastic effervescent loyalty for Christ and the Church or is it an obligatory loyalty? If it is the latter, then there must be some re-examination of our basic loyalty to Christ—is it real?

What a difference it would make if all young people would show this effervescent loyalty to the Church. What a witness it would make, and what a difference it would produce in our own lives. In our world today we need directed realistic loyalty. As Christians we must ask ourselves "where is my loyalty and what kind is it?" We have a job to do and are we willing to get out there and do it to the best of our ability?

Daily Bible Readings

M. June 29	Faithful Servants	Luke 12:41-48
T. June 30	Faithful in Little and Much	Luke 16:1-13
W. July 1	A Faithful Lord	II Thessalonians 3:1-5
T. July 2	Loyal Messengers	I Timothy 2:1-14
F. July 3	Joyous Loyalty	Acts 20:17-38
S. July 4	Loyal Stewards	II Corinthians 4:1-5
Sun. July 5	Topic: Effervescent Loyalty II Corinthians 11:18-27	

Comments by Rev. Roger D. Vander Kolk, associate pastor of the First Reformed Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan

Topic 2 in a Unit: Church Loyalty

Youth's Mission to Youth

Acts 4:13-20



For the Leader

You have a topic which is exciting, challenging, and vital for our day. Before you begin to dig into the meat of the topic prepare your heart with prayer, and reading of the daily Bible selections as they are listed at the end of this topic. There is a great deal covered in this topic. Many questions are raised. Try to surmise what your group is like; where are they strong and where are they weak. If there is an area in the topic material which discusses one of the group's weaknesses be sure to dwell on it and through discussion try to resolve the problems and bring strength to the society program. It will also be helpful to review last week's topic for highlights and points which can be correlated. Prepare for the presentation and pray for power.

For the Counselor

The summer time offers many opportunities for youth to minister to youth. There are work projects, camp experiences, and service projects which can be a vital means of witness and mission. Know the opportunities available to your youth. Information can be gotten from your denominational headquarters, Christian Endeavor, the National Association of Evangelicals, or the National Council of Churches. Help the youth see that their mission is not only "way out there," but also right here at home in their own church, community, and region. Seek to inspire them to take seriously their commitment to Christ. Be of assistance to the leader, show your interest by offering your assistance, do not force it. Encourage and challenge the youth of your society to fulfill their mission to youth.

For the Publicity

(Hints for The Lookout Committee)

You have the responsibility to see that the meetings are made known to the youth of the church and community. What kind of job are you doing? Was the topic of this meeting in the Sunday bulletin or parish newspaper or a letter to the members of the society? Was the additional effort put forth to make a special poster for the meetings of the month? Publicity is exceedingly important. People don't know of an event

unless they hear of it or see it advertised somewhere.

Make a poster for this meeting stating the topic and asking a question, "Do you have a responsibility to your fellow man?" Be sure to state time and place of meeting.

The best way of making meetings known is by word of mouth. Each one tell one and it is surprising who will know about it.

Projects

(Hints for the Church Activity Committee)

The members of this committee should keep their ears and eyes open during this topic. From the discussion, there may come some very good suggestions for projects and tasks which can be done for the church and community. Also you must realize that now is the time to think of a good citizenship project. Consult your pastor and counselors for suggestions and begin to lay the plans for the project you hope to carry out.

Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service

Prelude

Call to Worship

Hymns: *Crown Him with Many Crowns; Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah; Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Prayer Time: Use suggesting or bidding prayer—you state the area for prayer and the group prays silently

Responsive Reading: John 15:1-17, Selection 10 in *CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SONGS*

Ministry of Music

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

Offering: Piano Music

Hymn: *He Leadeth Me*

Topic Scripture: Acts 4:13-20

Topic Presentation

Hymn of Commitment: *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations*

Benediction

Postlude

Leader's Introduction

Youth has a mission to youth! This statement is easy enough to make, but what does it imply, and what does it entail? In the course of this topic we hope to discover what this has to say to us as Christian young people. When we reach our age we are called on to have a sense of mission; we are all aware of that. But so often we assume this mission to be to younger folk, to the Junior High age group or the Junior group, never to each other. One time a young fellow said to his pastor, "You say I have an obligation to Christ within my own peer group. Now tell me how can I have a sense of obligation for them if I myself don't know which end is up." That is just the problem. So often we get so wrapped up with ourselves that we lose sight of others. A noted lecturer once said that he found himself when he found others.

We may not be convinced that we have a responsibility or mission to those within our own age group, in our own sociological strata. So, let us dig into it. The philosophy of life which is so much a part of this topic must be seen clearly. In our day of materialism and secular individualism we find ourselves living in a cutthroat society. Each one striving to outdo the other. The Biblical instruction of "love thy neighbor as thyself" seems to have been relegated to the dark corner of history. But this should not be our philosophy as Christians. We should be seeking to live by the great commandments of God and striving to follow the teachings of our Saviour as they are found in the New Testament.

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A Sense of Obligation

As Christians we should possess a sense of obligation for the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The word *obligation* must be understood in its best sense and not as something that it reluctantly accepted. Witnessing for Christ is our responsibility as Christians. If we have accepted Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour then we must also accept the responsibilities of discipleship. Our relationship to Jesus Christ brings about an allegiance, which demands loyalty, which in turn demands action. We are unable to live the Christian life in a vacuum; we must live it in the world, among people. We will not be able to carry on a "mission to youth" unless we have a sense of obligation and responsibility.

In accepting Christ we have committed ourselves to a life of loyalty to Him and His Church. We are living in the world but always in the context of the fellowship of believers. Our commitment to Christ gives meaning to our commitment to His Church. It is Christ through the working of the Holy Spirit who gives drive, purpose, direction, and determination to the whole matter of the Christian life.

Concern for non-Christian Youth

It is Christ who calls us to live for Him. But His call does not stop there for He also expects us to live for others. This is wonderfully shown in the two great commandments that Jesus gave in summation of the law and the prophets (see Matthew 22:36-40).

We cannot witness for Christ unless we sense some compelling motives or have definite convictions. We must resolve in our own minds the answers to such questions as: *Do I really believe that Jesus is the only way? Are people lost without Him? Am I my brother's keeper? Does God expect me to lead others to Him? Is Christ my Saviour?* We must believe with all our life that Christ is the only answer to the needs of men, that with Him life can be lived in its fullest—without Him life is merely existence. The motivating force in our concern for others and their knowledge of Christ must be a desire to share with them the things that God has done for us in Christ.

Do our non-Christian friends know we are Christians? Or have we so well hidden the light which we are to show forth that we are just other young people in society? Is our Christian faith one which others would desire? Is it a positive, affirmative, and victorious faith? If we

Further Discussion

1. Why is evangelism the major task of the Church?
2. What are some outstanding examples of evangelism in the world today?
3. Did the early disciples have more power for the work of witnessing than is available to men today?
4. What is the most effective way of leading others to Christ?
5. What is meant by the word nurture?
6. Why is nurture such an important part of evangelism?
7. Is it possible for Christianity to overcome the world-wide threat of Communism? How?

have convictions that this is the life, that this is it, we will want to share it. In a sense, we will want to sell it to others. We become salesmen for the free gift of God's salvation. God uses what we say; we are His mouth piece. (Check these Scripture references for further background: Matthew 6:2-18; Isaiah 53; John 14:5-7; Jonah 4:10,11; II Corinthians 5:2.)

A Plan to Win Youth

(Read again Acts 4:20 and review the setting of the story from which these words come.) It is well worth repeating these words of Peter for they show courage, conviction, and determination. Do we have this kind of conviction and loyalty? Are our convictions so strong that we feel compelled to speak of what we have experienced in our life? We are called on to answer what our mission is to youth and what it implies. From Peter's statement we can say that our mission is to speak of the things we have seen and heard—to share with others the changed life that Christ has brought about with the new attitudes, concerns, and purposes.

If we would win youth and witness effectively we must not be content with occasional efforts. There are natural opportunities that we all have day after day in which we can be introducing other youth to Christ. These are God-given opportunities that we must face up to and use. (Discuss how friendships, daily example, conversation, letter writing and numerous other ways can be opportunities to witness. Suggest and discuss ways in which your society can sponsor a program to win youth. Secure a copy of the booklet *How to Win Youth* (10c) from the International Society. This booklet contains hints and suggestions for conducting a visitation evangelism program.)

A Program of Nurture

A mission to youth also implies a program of activities in the church by which Christian maturity may be achieved. Let us call this nurture. Physically speaking we are always growing. There is a constant process of renewal and replacement and addition. Even in the area of mental capacities we grow. Hence the reason for schools and training in crafts and skills. We read newspapers, books and magazines so that we may grow mentally. Now the same should be true for the spiritual. Ask these questions: *How do you grow spiritually? What is now happening in your church to assist you in learning? Do you have any suggestions how the Christian nurture program of your church could better assist you to maturity?* (Share these findings with your pastor.) *Are you assisting other youth in Christian nurture?*

As youth we have an allegiance and obligation to Jesus Christ and His Church. In committing our lives to Him and His church we are called to have loyalty with a purpose of mission for Christ to the non-Christian and to nurture within our own communion. We have a mission to youth and Christ challenges us to carry it out.

An Illustration

"My child, when you pray to Me you own little troubles and doubts, your prayer is pretty thin and small. When you reach out to help other people by offering yourself as a channel for Me, your prayer becomes at once large and noble."

—Frank Laubach's *Prayer Diary* (Fleming H. Revell Company)

Daily Bible Readings

M. July 6	Like Calls to Like	Psalms 42:1
T. July 7	Importance of Youth	I Timothy 4:7-8
W. July 8	Youth Renewed	Psalms 103:1
T. July 9	Manner of Life	Acts 26:1
F. July 10	Seek God in Youth	II Chronicles 34:1
S. July 11	Fear the Lord	I Kings 18:7-16
Sun. July 12—Topic:	Youth's Mission to Youth	Acts 4:13-18

Comments by Rev. Roger D. Vander Kolk, associate pastor of the First Reformed Church of Kalamazoo, Michigan

Hymns listed in program outlines in THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD have been selected from the new CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SONGS. This book, with an attractive orange and black krome-kote cover, contains 138 songs and hymns and 20 responsive Scripture readings for youth meetings. Available from International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43216. Price: 60c each, \$6 per dozen, \$48 per hundred.

Topic 1 in a Unit: Christian Courtship

Ten Commandments for Dating

II Timothy 2:22



Attention Devotional Committee

This topic to be effective must be worked out with care and the leader prayerfully chosen. To keep this topic serious and meaningful so that it does not just become an opportunity "to sound off" keep the direction of the meeting always under control.

Prepare a booklet for each member which will be used throughout the topic. Use a piece of colored paper for the cover and three pieces of smaller paper for the inside pages. This could consist of a construction paper cover with typing paper for the inside pages or whatever paper you have that is easy to write on. Fold these pages in the middle and tie on the fold with yarn or staple. On the front print or type TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR DATING. On the first page inside print the Index. On the top of the succeeding pages print the following:

The Ten Commandments
Ten Commandments for Dating
Five Positive Rules for Dating
Five Negative Rules for Dating
Five Most Wanted Qualities in a Date
Five Most Disliked Qualities in a Date
Standards of Conduct
Going Steady
Conclusion

If the members of the committee divide this up it will not be too much work for anyone and will not only keep the discussion under control but will enable the members to have something to remind them later of this topic and the positives recommended.

Advertise the Meeting

Write or print *Ten Commandments for Dating* at the top of a large piece of poster paper or on the chalkboard in your meeting room or Sunday school department. Under it, in a vertical column, write the numbers 1 to 10. Under this write the date, time of the meeting, and place it will be held. If your attendance has fallen off in the summer, send out postal cards with this same wording to all the members who came during your peak attendance.

You might find sitting around tables to be an advantage in this meeting so writing in the booklets is easier.

To the Leader

Each day, two weeks previous to the meeting, read the Daily Readings listed at the end of the topic material. Also

read the Scripture for the topic, II Timothy 2:19-23 with emphasis on verses 21 and 22. Meditate on these passages of Scripture so you are well grounded in their content. Pray for guidance as you prepare for the discussion. Dating is an important part of growing up. It should be a very happy time. Well adjusted and Christ-centered young people can make it just that. When selfishness and lust come in there can be dire consequences of which we hear so much. A sane and frank discussion on this topic should lead to some sober thinking, and that is the aim of the meeting.

As the meeting begins have each one fill in the booklet prepared by the Devotional Committee. Emphasize that the booklets are to be taken home and what is written in each one is his own to consider and ponder later.

Have some extra Bibles available so each one will have one. Have ready chalkboard, chalk, and eraser.

The Topic

Ask everyone to open his Bible to Exodus 20 and to list the Ten Commandments as they appear in verses 1 through 17. List them in abbreviated form. Let each one list them on the page under *Ten Commandments*.

Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service
Hymns: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*;
No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus
Announcements
Introduction of Topic
Scripture: II Timothy 2:19-23
Prayer
Leader's Talk and Distribution of the Booklets
Topic Presentation
Discussion
Conclusion
Sentence Prayers
Hymn: *Give of Your Best to the Master*
Benediction

Ten Commandments for Dating

On the opposite page to the *Ten Commandments*, make a list for dating that is patterned after them.

1. Put God first in all you do. Choose dates among Christian friends to avoid pitfalls.
2. Do not allow false values to become graven images, such as: popularity, clothes, cars, sports.
3. Do not take the Lord's name in vain, or let your speech run to slang. Keep your speech clean. Refrain from saying things that are not honoring to God.
4. Keep Sunday as the Lord's Day. This will enable you to have time for all the church services. The remainder of the day should be spent in service. Sunday dates should be different than those on other days.
5. Remember, Mother and Dad have your best interests at heart; heed them. In case of conflict, calmly discuss your point of view. If you lose, respect their judgment. In the days ahead you will be glad you did.
6. Drive carefully. Your life as well as the life of any one riding in your car is in your hands. Guard it well. Do not kill reputations, friendships, trust, confidence, with unkind words and criticisms.
7. Do not take physical liberties. Little leads to more, and more to too much. Fire is only good under control. Fire out of control can only destroy. The burned blackened area is only an eyesore where once stood beautiful vegetation. Keep your life pure and lovable.
8. Take not another's possessions. Neither steal the limelight, another's

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good reputation, praise due another, someone's faith in you, or your friend's current date.

9. Do not tell "the girls" or "the fellows" things about your dates you should keep to yourself. Do not exaggerate the things you have done or the places you have been. Do not tell your parents falsehoods about your activities. Keep your comings and goings such that you can tell the truth.
10. Covet not that which you cannot have. It may not be best for you anyway. Learn to discipline yourself; life is not made up of always getting what you want. Learn to do the best you can with what you have.

From these suggestions and those given by the group, write down on the page designated your ten commandments for dating. Make them realistic and suitable to your own lives.

For the next sections—*Five Positive Rules for Dating*; *Five Negative Rules for Dating*; *Five Qualities Most Wanted in a Date*; and *Five Most Disliked Qualities in a Date*—ask a boy to go to the chalkboard and write down the fellows' suggestions on each one of these and then ask a girl to take the chalk and list the suggestions of the girls. These should be done one at a time or you will need lots of space for writing.

Keep this strictly under control and allow no foolishness or the point of this part of the meeting will be lost. These practical suggestions should be heeded. Some who seem to have trouble getting dates could well learn what their specific problems are, if this is done in the right spirit.

Standards of Conduct

After having written down the good and negative aspects of dating, you should now be ready to formulate some rules for conduct. These are suggestions:

1. When making a date, be specific. The boy should ask a girl for a specific activity then she will know if she wishes to spend her time doing this. She will also know how to dress for the occasion. If there is a question about what they will be doing it should be decided when the date is made and not after they have started the date. The girl should give a definite answer if she wishes to accept the date and to know the time she is to be called for. She should always be ready at the specified time.

2. A planned activity is usually much more fun and far less dangerous.

3. If you have a curfew, observe it.

4. Parking is like dynamite with the fuse lighted. A full evening of activity does not allow time for this.

5. Be considerate of your date. Devote the evening in each other's company. Do not leave your date to go off on some mission of your own.

6. Be courteous to each other. If a disagreement should arise remember Proverbs 15:1. Consideration for each other is important, very important.

7. Be honest. If asked for a date and you do not wish to accept give an honest reason (you have to study, your mother needs some help, you promised to help your brother with some homework).

8. If you have to break a date, do so honestly. If you have no real reason to break the date, don't.

9. Always be cleanly and neatly dressed. No one wants to be seen with a "slob."

10. Keep yourself pure. The most wonderful gift you can give your future bride or groom is your purity.

Going Steady

(A Case History from
Ann Landers' Column)

"I am 16 and ready to make reservations in the Old Ladies Home. My life is ruined and I never want to see another boy as long as I live. We started to go steady Labor Day weekend. He gave me his picture and wrote on it, 'Love forever.' We exchanged sweaters, I D bracelets. I put a peroxide streak in his hair and he painted my name on the door of his convertible. We were like soldered. I should have guessed when he gave me an 87 cent bottle of cologne for Christmas but the cookie did not crumble until he told me he had to take a third cousin out on New Year's Eve, his mother's orders. I told him to come get his junk, that we were through. His answer was, 'Fine. Going steady is like being in jail. Goodbye, Warden.' What do you think of a skunk who would treat a girl like this after she gave him the best five months of her life?"

ANN LANDERS' ANSWER: "Welcome to the Free World. The advantages of *not* going steady outweigh by far the advantages. What some teens mistake for social security in reality is social paralysis." Reprinted with permission by Ann Landers, a columnist for the SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER.

Do you agree?

Discuss social security in going steady as against social paralysis.

Write your conclusions on the page marked *Going Steady*.

Conclusion

Go back over the booklet quickly. Make a quick summary of each topic, pointing out the most important emphasis of each.

As an added commandment, "Think ye on these things" (read Philippians 4:8). We pass this way but once and today is the place where we make our memories for tomorrow. Keeping our conduct above reproach is the only way to accomplish this, for our consciences and memories have a way of coming back to haunt us if our deeds are not right. On the "other side of the coin" are the pleasant memories that will linger always with us—the fine fellowship of other Christians, the good times of youth and as strange as it may seem now, the freedom of our youth. We must make the most of these times to keep them fresh and unspotted.

(Read Philippians 4:9.) The Person of God, His presence, and His peace can be ours. As Christians we carry the Holy Spirit with us wherever we go. He wants to be our guide.

Travel Light

Never fear the valleys
For they will soon be past;
Never fear the mountains—
You will reach the top at last;
Never fear the long roads
Though they try your weary bones;
Never fear the rivers
For they all have stepping stones.
Yes, 'tis not the dusty highways
Nor the turmoil of the town,
But the things you carry with you
That will weigh you down.

— Selected

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Daily Bible Readings

M. July 13	My Attitude toward Parents	Luke 2:41-52
T. July 14	My Attitude toward Others	Luke 6:27-35
W. July 15	My Attitude toward God	Matthew 22:37-40
M. July 16	My Friend's Conscience	I Corinthians 8:4-13
F. July 17	Look toward Love	I Corinthians 13:1-13
S. July 18	Look at the Ten Commandments	Exodus 20:1-17
Sun. July 19—Topic: Ten Commandments & Dating	Matthew 22:37-40	II Timothy 2:21-22

Comments by Mrs. R. E. LeRiche, who has served as counselor of many Christian Endeavor societies and as vice-president of the Pacific Region of the International Society.

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD

Topic 2 in a Unit: Christian Courtship

Do You Hear Wedding Bells?

Ephesians 5:22-33



Advertising the Meeting

Get some of the decorative wedding bells that are used on wedding cakes; use these as a poster advertising the meeting. Have the theme of the meeting in bold letters.

A skit might be used in Sunday school. Have someone ring bells outside the door. The person making the announcement will use after the bell ringing with the announcement—"Do you hear Wedding Bells? This is the theme of our Christian endeavor discussion tonight. You'll be there won't you?"

Alternate Meeting Plans

Several different plans for presentation of the topic might be used. The first would be to have a panel to make a presentation at various phases of the engagement period. There should be time allowed for questions and discussion of each of the topics. Four people could be selected to present the essence of the four topics.

Leader's Introduction

The topic considered last week and the one tonight make a unit on Christian courtship. Are dating, courtship, and marriage of primary concern to the Christian? Or are they sort of "outside" our religious concern? Are they matters in which we need guidance, or are they concerns which more or less take care of themselves? Does the Bible tell us everything about dating and engagement? Or does it say anything that would help us?

The purpose of our meeting tonight is that of a continuing search for direction in these matters. Tonight we want to concern ourselves with the engagement period. Let us raise some questions that will help us to explore this matter together. A few might be: *When should two people become engaged? How long should the engagement period be? What is the purpose of the engagement? What things should be discussed during the engagement period? Should a couple consult anyone else about their plans? Or do you think that young people know enough about the meaning and problems of marriage to work everything out by themselves?*

Engagement Is a Christian Concern

Our commitment to Christ involves our entire lives. Passages such as Ephesians 5:22,23 and Genesis 2:18-25 indicate that marriage is a divine institution. Anything as important as marriage requires the serious concern as one prepares for it. Marriage is not only a physical and social unity; it is a spiritual union as well.

Since marriage is of a sacred nature, then that which helps one to prepare for it should also be of serious concern to the Christian. Engagement should be a time of serious planning and preliminary adjustments. It is a time for an examination of purposes, values, and interests of both parties involved in the relationship. In marriage the day to day frictions and problems may be worked out if there is a common perspective from which the problems are viewed. A common perspective also makes possible effective communication which is essential in the building of a Christian home.

Since the Christian marriage is for life, this adds a note of seriousness to the engagement period. This means that a couple should discuss many problems such as difference in backgrounds, views on money, child-rearing, religion, the

fiancee's family, and the over-all philosophy of life of both individuals. This does not mean that there must be complete agreement. But there must be common respect and appreciation for each other in the face of some differences.

When Should You Become Engaged?

The popular answer is probably, "if you love each other, you'll know." But many couples who were rather "madly in love" when they married, have found that they did not prepare adequately for marriage. Successful marriage requires preparation and planning. "Love" soon disappears if a couple cannot meet the problems and adjustments which marriage requires of any couple.

Marriage is for adults in every sense of the term. When are persons mature enough to become engaged? The first mark of maturity is that of a willingness to accept life pretty much as it is. A person should work energetically and persistently at changing the things that can be changed. But there are some things which cannot be changed. The person must somehow learn to live with these things. Individuals must learn how to live constructively in the face of conflict and frustration.

A second mark of maturity is the ability to accept responsibility. Marriage has many demands upon those who enter into it. There are physical, social, and spiritual demands inherent within it.

A third mark of maturity is that of living in relationship to something beyond the moment. A mature person has a perspective of life which enables him to see consequences of behavior in such a way that he can control his impulses.

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Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service
Call to Worship: Psalm 34:1-3
Hymn: *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*
Scripture Reading: Genesis 2:18-25; Ephesians 5:22,23
Hymn: *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*
Prayer
Special Music: Have a solo in keeping with the theme of the topic; a good Christian marriage hymn would be appropriate
Announcements and Offering
Presentation of Topic
Discussion
Hymn: *For the Beauty of the Earth*
Benediction

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His energies are directed into ways of abundant living.

A fourth mark of maturity is that the person can constructively deal with frustration, conflict, and guilt. Life does not always turn out to our liking. The mature person must be able to face life with poise when he is denied what he most wants or desires. He must also be willing to endure some discomfort and sacrifice to obtain that which he values.

A fifth mark of maturity is that he knows how to give and receive love. A mature love is not found, but it is built through consideration, understanding, and a genuine desire to help the mate to become the best person he or she can become. Love is not something that is demanded, but something stimulated through respect and wholesome concern.

Marriage is the foundation of the family. Family living entails many responsibilities. There must be a family income. If young people marry too young, the preparation for a vocation which will enable the couple to have a good income may be jeopardized. Modern life does demand technical training. Job opportunities for the untrained are increasingly difficult to secure. There is likewise more assurance of more lasting employment in the skilled professions.

In addition to economic reasons for completing an education, there are personal reasons for doing this. The well educated person usually has a wider perspective from which to view problems. He can usually have better emotional control than the person with a limited background. There are fewer divorces (percentage-wise) among the college educated people than among those who have not gone to college.

Where Can an Engaged Couple Find Help in Preparing for Marriage?

Since young people have generally not had marital experience, they need to turn to others to find out how to prepare for the life together. There are many sources of help for young people today.

First, go to your minister well in advance of your marriage. He will be glad to help you. He can suggest books, pamphlets, and some sound filmstrips that will give guidance and suggestions which you can use in your planning. Some ministers have marriage preparedness and other types of tests which would be valuable for you to take. They are usually available at a relatively small cost.

If the minister does not have books available, go to your library. You can

find some very good books in this area of concern.

There are medical doctors who have a real interest in helping young couples to get started. Many of these will take considerable time with a young couple in explaining how to get the most out of marriage.

In the larger population centers there are family service associations which specialize in premarital education and counseling. Their effectiveness has proven itself over the years.

What Matters Should Be Discussed During Engagement?

The answer is very simple—everything that it is possible to discuss. Such discussion lays a firm foundation for communication throughout the years ahead. Most of the couples that run into great difficulty in marriage are couples that have a great problem in communicating with each other.

Not only is the foundation laid for communication, but an awareness of the possible areas of difficulty helps to prepare the couple to solve the problems. Differences in backgrounds and interests should be discussed and assessed. The attitude toward money is very important as more couples have difficulty over money than over anything else. Reading and planning with respect to a budget is very important. Christians must be good stewards of their possessions.

Christian attitudes toward sex are very important. The sexual side of marriage should not be isolated nor be given an exaggerated place in the marital relationship. On the other hand, it is a very important part of marriage.

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Illustration

"In Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a triangular piece of land called 'The Point' marks the place where the Monongahela River and the Allegheny River come together—henceforth to flow no longer separately, but merged to form a new river, the Ohio. Marriage should be like that. For the Christian couple the wedding should be 'The Point' where their entire beings are joined, henceforth flow on as one stream, 'heirs together to the grace of life' (1 Peter 3:7)."
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Comments by Dr. Lawrence M. Bixler professor of Bible and Christian Education at Northwest Christian College, Eugene, Oregon

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORKS

Topic 2 in a Unit: Christian Courtship

Do You Hear Wedding Bells?

Ephesians 5:22-33

Advertising the Meeting

Get some of the decorative wedding bells that are used on wedding cakes; use these in a poster advertising the meeting. Have the theme of the meeting in bold letters.

A skit might be used in Sunday school. Have someone ring bells outside the door. The person making the announcement will rise after the bell ringing with the announcement—"Do you hear Wedding Bells? This is the theme of our Christian endeavor discussion tonight. You'll be there on't you?"

Alternate Meeting Plans

Several different plans for presentation of the topic might be used. The first would be to have a panel to make a presentation in various phases of the engagement period. There should be time allowed for questions and discussion of each of the topics. Four people could be selected to present the essence of the four topics.

Leader's Introduction

The topic considered last week and the one tonight make a unit on Christian courtship. Are dating, courtship, and marriage of primary concern to the Christian? Or are they sort of "outside" our religious concern? Are they matters in which we need guidance, or are they concerns which more or less take care of themselves? Does the Bible tell us everything about dating and engagement? Or does it say anything that would help us?

The purpose of our meeting tonight is that of a continuing search for direction in these matters. Tonight we want to concern ourselves with the engagement period. Let us raise some questions that will help us to explore this matter together. A few might be: *When should two people become engaged? How long should the engagement period be? What is the purpose of the engagement? What things should be discussed during the engagement period? Should a couple consult anyone else about their plans? Or do you think that young people know enough about the meaning and problems of marriage to work everything out by themselves?*

Engagement Is a Christian Concern

Our commitment to Christ involves our entire lives. Passages such as Ephesians 5:22,23 and Genesis 2:18-25 indicate that marriage is a divine institution. Anything as important as marriage requires the serious concern as one prepares for it. Marriage is not only a physical and social unity; it is a spiritual union as well.

Since marriage is of a sacred nature, then that which helps one to prepare for it should also be of serious concern to the Christian. Engagement should be a time of serious planning and preliminary adjustments. It is a time for an examination of purposes, values, and interests of both parties involved in the relationship. In marriage the day to day frictions and problems may be worked out if there is a common perspective from which the problems are viewed. A common perspective also makes possible effective communication which is essential in the building of a Christian home.

Since the Christian marriage is for life, this adds a note of seriousness to the engagement period. This means that a couple should discuss many problems such as difference in backgrounds, views on money, child-rearing, religion, the

fiancee's family, and the over-all philosophy of life of both individuals. This does not mean that there must be complete agreement. But there must be common respect and appreciation for each other in the face of some differences.

When Should You Become Engaged?

The popular answer is probably, "if you love each other, you'll know." But many couples who were rather "madly in love" when they married, have found that they did not prepare adequately for marriage. Successful marriage requires preparation and planning. "Love" soon disappears if a couple cannot meet the problems and adjustments which marriage requires of any couple.

Marriage is for adults in every sense of the term. When are persons mature enough to become engaged? The first mark of maturity is that of a willingness to accept life pretty much as it is. A person should work energetically and persistently at changing the things that can be changed. But there are some things which cannot be changed. The person must somehow learn to live with these things. Individuals must learn how to live constructively in the face of conflict and frustration.

A second mark of maturity is the ability to accept responsibility. Marriage has many demands upon those who enter into it. There are physical, social, and spiritual demands inherent within it.

A third mark of maturity is that of living in relationship to something beyond the moment. A mature person has a perspective of life which enables him to see consequences of behavior in such a way that he can control his impulses.

(Continued on next page)



Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service

Call to Worship: Psalm 34:1-3

Hymn: *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

Scripture Reading: Genesis 2:18-25; Ephesians 5:22,23

Hymn: *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*

Prayer

Special Music: Have a solo in keeping with the theme of the topic; a good Christian marriage hymn would be appropriate

Announcements and Offering

Presentation of Topic

Discussion

Hymn: *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Benediction

(Continued from previous page)

His energies are directed into ways of abundant living.

A fourth mark of maturity is that the person can constructively deal with frustration, conflict, and guilt. Life does not always turn out to our liking. The mature person must be able to face life with poise when he is denied what he most wants or desires. He must also be willing to endure some discomfort and sacrifice to obtain that which he values.

A fifth mark of maturity is that he knows how to give and receive love. A mature love is not found, but it is built through consideration, understanding, and a genuine desire to help the mate to become the best person he or she can become. Love is not something that is demanded, but something stimulated through respect and wholesome concern.

Marriage is the foundation of the family. Family living entails many responsibilities. There must be a family income. If young people marry too young, the preparation for a vocation which will enable the couple to have a good income may be jeopardized. Modern life does demand technical training. Job opportunities for the untrained are increasingly difficult to secure. There is likewise more assurance of more lasting employment in the skilled professions.

In addition to economic reasons for completing an education, there are personal reasons for doing this. The well educated person usually has a wider perspective from which to view problems. He can usually have better emotional control than the person with a limited background. There are fewer divorces (percentagewise) among the college educated people than among those who have not gone to college.

Where Can an Engaged Couple Find Help in Preparing for Marriage?

Since young people have generally not had marital experience, they need to turn to others to find out how to prepare for the life together. There are many sources of help for young people today.

First, go to your minister well in advance of your marriage. He will be glad to help you. He can suggest books, pamphlets, and some sound filmstrips that will give guidance and suggestions which you can use in your planning. Some ministers have marriage preparedness and other types of tests which would be valuable for you to take. They are usually available at a relatively small cost.

If the minister does not have books available, go to your library. You can

find some very good books in this area of concern.

There are medical doctors who have a real interest in helping young couples to get started. Many of these will take considerable time with a young couple in explaining how to get the most out of marriage.

In the larger population centers there are family service associations which specialize in premarital education and counseling. Their effectiveness has proven itself over the years.

What Matters Should Be Discussed During Engagement?

The answer is very simple—everything that it is possible to discuss. Such discussion lays a firm foundation for communication throughout the years ahead. Most of the couples that run into great difficulty in marriage are couples that have a great problem in communicating with each other.

Not only is the foundation laid for communication, but an awareness of the possible areas of difficulty helps to prepare the couple to solve the problems. Differences in backgrounds and interests should be discussed and assessed. The attitude toward money is very important as more couples have difficulty over money than over anything else. Reading and planning with respect to a budget is very important. Christians must be good stewards of their possessions.

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Comments by Dr. Lawrence M. Bixler professor of Bible and Christian Education at Northwest Christian College, Eugene, Oregon

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORK

Topics and Helps

FOR YOUNG ADULTS AND ADULTS

Topic Summaries for July

Prepared by the Adult Work Committee

The Adult Work Committee which prepared these summaries included Dr. Earle W. Gates, chairman; Joan Pyle, Rev. Walter C. Schaeffer, and Wanna Sell.

Law Observance (two topics)

Seven Days a Week

I Peter 2:13-16; John 8:1-11

The Bible clearly teaches that Christians are to observe every ordinance or law whether of the Lord or of the king or of the governor. In Peter we read, "not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as servants of God." The Christian sometimes uses his reputation or standing in the community to side-step responsibility or to twist ordinances to his own advantage. Our faith, and our responsibility to the community to live by that faith, are obligations that take seven days a week. Discuss community practices that aren't in accordance with Christian principles. A local police officer may be able to relate some of his experiences in dealing with a Christian community.

2. By Works

Ezra 7:26; Titus 2:6-8

Just before entering a restaurant where liquor was sold, one of a crowd of young adults was heard to say, "I'm not going in there and spoil my record." A question immediately comes to mind. Did the individual have a record to spoil? To patronize the restaurant or not is not the question here. Rather had this person created such a sufficiently positive Christian witness that it would make any difference to his friends if he had patronized the restaurant. Review ways in which we deliberately hurt our Christian witness through failure to act positively. Our attraction to the non-Christian is that which we do, each hour of each day. What are some activities in our community living experience that we could improve?

Opportunities for Service (two topics)

1. What Can I Do?

Acts 9:36-39; Romans 12:5-13

Sometimes people think they cannot serve Christ and the church as well in their local area as they might in another place. The Master did say, "A

prophet is not without honor, save in his own country, and in his own house" (Matthew 13:57b), but this is no excuse to fold hands and be a "do-nothing" Christian. In Acts 10:1-6, how did Cornelius serve where he lived? Note in Acts 16:14, 15 how Lydia contributed her services. How did the individuals in Acts 18:24-28 make good use of their opportunities for service? In III John note the difference in Gaius, Diotrephes, and Demetrius, as to how they used their opportunities. Perhaps your society would like to adopt one of your denominational missionaries and regularly write encouraging letters, then sharing their returns in the society meeting.

2. Beyond Our Horizons

Isaiah 6:1-8; John 10:16,17

Yearly the church faces new challenges in her outreach both at home and

abroad. With our modern-day jet travel, radio, TV, and short-wave communications, the world has suddenly become quite small. A Memorial Day public speaker once said, "It does make a difference to you if people starve to death in China, perish in the floods of India, or fight on the battlefields of Europe, for these places are closer to you and your children than the county seat was to your grandfather." Time and space have borne us far. As we reach new horizons we must sense our privilege of sharing the Gospel with all whom we meet. Discuss the following: Does one have to go abroad as a church missionary to bear Christian witness in another country? Why your answer? What opportunity for Christian fellowship and witnessing is afforded a tourist going abroad? Is the language barrier as great today as in the past?

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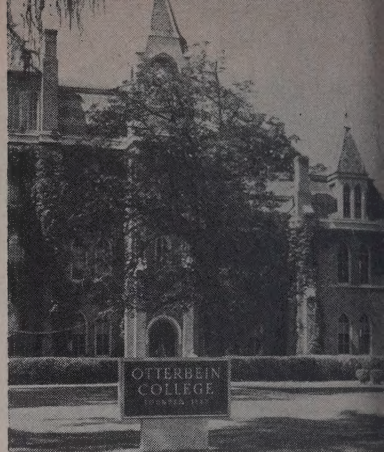
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Come to the International Summer Assembly



Mayne Hall, new dormitory for girls



Historic Towers Hall

**Otterbein College
Westerville, Ohio**

July 6-11, 1964

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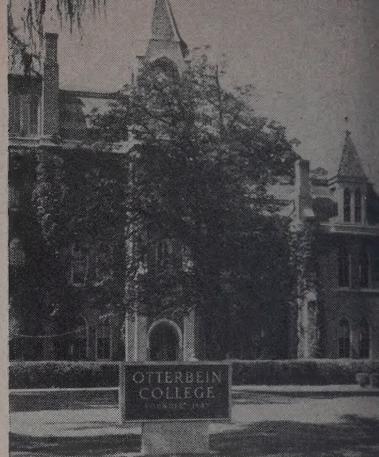


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